

SEP 5 - 1951

HE
6187
P548
V. 25-31

This is the Largest Collectors Monthly of America for Size and Circulation.

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge;
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist.

The Curio Monthly and Photo-Exchange Bulletin

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 15000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, International Stamp Collectors Association, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Twin City Philatelic Society, Texas Philatelic Association, and

New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Stamp Collectors Association, etc.

Vol. XXV.

JANUARY 1904

No. 3

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 225 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Manchester, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT: C. A. NAST, Cor. 16 and Curtis, Denver,

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOCARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Manchester, Wis.

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 36 prominent societies. **THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER.** The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

Have Your Ad Copy in Early. You Get Better Display and Position. Try It.



OME thoughtful friend in England sends us this remarkable arraignment of philately, clipped from an English newspaper. The author betrays a familiarity with his subject that leads one to believe that he could write a passable refutation of the sneers his diatribe contains:

"The method by which a mania of this kind is engineered is somewhat like this: When once a few choice foolish minds have taken fire, a club is started, and laws are fixed. These regulations are solemnly invented and preserved like religious ceremonies. The penalty of offense is, I suppose, ostracism from the society of the fancy. You do not deal with the person you find faking stamps, and you openly sneer at Central American Republics who attempt to dodge your rules. In this, I think the stamp maniacs have exercised wonderful forbearance; for consider to what airy height of possibility the collector's art could be carried if all petty States in America were allowed to print their own stamps, independantly of criticism! But the fraternity of stamp collectors is adamant. The President Castros of this world receive their ultimatum and tremble: Before the fiat of the philatelists of the world Nicaraguas and Columbias bow."

"The art of collecting stamps not being found difficult enough in its original form, the fancy set to work to make it more so. Some ingenious person discovered that stamps had different numbers of perforations, and were characterized by different letters, and that even whole blocks of them had varying watermarks. Conceive the delisht of the brotherhood under this discovery. It was now possible to enlarge the art or science (whichever it is termed) practically without limit. Stamp collectors, chuckling in their joy could surmount hill after hill in their ascent toward the ideal, and still find their goal remote and inaccessible. It was stimulating; it acted like a great religion; and it provoked hope, faith, courage, and constancy; noble qualities in poor, ignoble man. Hence philately flourished. Perforations became known over the face of the civilized Occident, and the mystery of watermarked blocks penetrated (with the Bible) even to remote uplands of Africa.

FROM Chihuahua, Mexico, comes the following literary gem, anent the philatelic button: "Our well beloved Hermes tells me you are in a dilemma about a button for Ye Order of Philatelia. Methinks it is an easy matter to decide (I flatter myself that you have me as synonymous with knowledge). Take the winged head of Mercury, our Messenger, put a laurel wreath around him and "Philatelia" in Greek letters. Lo! you have a button. A model that pleases us, and why not you? Your Bards hath said 'Rome, you have been a kind mother,' be thou in turn obitian and ye Gods will thrice bless thee.

MINERVA.

"(Look envelope stamp of Greece of the year 1894 and see a model.)"

And after all, why not? This word juggler's idea is worthy of consideration.

OVER 1600 pages is the record of the WEST for 1803. A year ago we promised subscribers 100 pages each month. Our motio remains unchanged:—"The Best—and Lots of It,"

The Mottoes of the WEST Postmarks of New York

By J. W. Wheeler

72 Comstock Ave., Providence, R. I.

THAT the WEST has enjoyed prosperity during the past year is obvious. And the reason is as apparent as the fact, "The Best—and Lots of It," is a sure winner. We have this business motto of ours so securely and conspicuously placed in our memory that we simply can't forget it.

There's another motto of the WEST that means a good deal "The Oldest, Largest, and Best." These three mottoes express the whole condition in a nutshell; they contain all the whys and wherefores. It is not necessary for us to tell you how much the WEST will be improved, how the size will be increased, etc., etc. During 1904 we don't juggle promises. What the WEST IS, is what counts. Comparison with other publications tells the whole story.

Over 100 pages each month and every month. Why that's a mark no other collectors paper in the world has ever reached. We have reason to believe that January 1905 even this great record will be broken. In the meantime the same high standard as applied to the text will be maintained. So that the latest motto of the WEST is worth repeating right here "Published Particularly for Particular People."

L. T. BRODSTONE,
Publisher.

E. H. WILKINSON,
Managing Editor.

Note: Corrections or additions welcomed. Cuts are half size. Continued from last month.

IV.

The adding of the amount of postage into the postmark, in the very year in which stamps were introduced seems remarkable, but though stamps were in use they were not in general use so that at least up to 1858, New York was still using these "PAID" postmarks. The first style of these was shown last month, but it was also used in the ten cents value, and until

1855. In that year a new one came out, Fig 11, in black ink, smaller type, and the word "PAID" added, this also had



Fig. 11

the 2, 3, and 10 cent values. It was used as late as 1858. In 1856 another style was used, Fig 12, with the word "PAID" in the middle in slanting letters, the whole being in red.



Fig. 12.

But meanwhile on the letters where regular postage stamps were being used, other postmarks were in evidence. From 1852-58 a plain single circle was in use, stamped in black ink, Fig. 13. This differs from



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.

Fig. 9 in the spacing of "York." In 1854 a slight variation occurs, Fig. 14, in which the type is set a little farther from the circle. It may be mere that the PAID postmarks above described were the last despatching marks in red ink, and that red has since been used only in stamping notices of postage due, etc. on the backs of envelopes. (To be continued)



Revenue Dep't.

Conducted by
Charles A. Nast.

THE list of the Antikamnia surcharges having found so much favor with collectors, I herewith give the Piso Co. and the J. Elwood Lee Co's. cancellations. The Piso Co. is always found with red imprints, all are precancelled and type printed, (with one exception noted below). As the ink is a bright vermillion and generally the $\frac{5}{8}$ blue stamp used, they are at once striking and beautiful.

- $\frac{5}{8}$ —The Piso Co., two lines, small type and figures.
- “ The same inverted.
- “ The Piso Co., two lines, large type, Gothic figures, 1898.
- “ The Piso Co., large type, figures in Italic, 1899.
- “ The same inverted.
- “ The Piso Co., three lines, same as last. Small date inserted, 1-28-1899.
- “ The Piso Co., three lines, same as above, different date, 2-17-1899.
- “ The Piso Co., Jensen Type, De Vinne figures, 1898.
- “ The Piso Co., large type, the two 8s above the line, 1898.
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ The Piso Co., in three lines red surcharge in frame, rubber hand stamp, Sept. 1, 1899.

The J. Elwood Lee cancellations are also always in red ink, though sometimes the red assumes a brownish color. The following list are all in black letters, with three noted exceptions. They are always in two lines,

however, the letters on the first and the figures on the second. Some varieties in type exist, but I will, for lack of space, generalize and give only the dates on each value:

3

- $\frac{5}{8}$ —Long letters J. E. L. Co., 7-1-98.
- 2— “ “ “ “
- $\frac{1}{8}$ —Block letters J. E. L. Co., 1900 over B. & B. inverted.

The following are all block letters:

5

- $\frac{1}{4}$ —J. E. L. Co., 7-1-98.
- “ “ 7-21-98.
- “ “ 7-25-95.
- “ “ 8-26-98.
- “ “ 1898.
- $\frac{1}{4}$ “ 1899, nine different.

4

- $\frac{3}{8}$ “ 7-1-98.
- “ “ 7-21-98.
- “ “ 7-25-98.
- “ “ 8-6-98.

4

- $\frac{5}{8}$ “ 1898.
- “ “ 7-1-98.
- “ “ 7-25-98.
- “ “ 8-6-98.

4

- 1c “ 1898.
- “ “ 7-1-98.
- “ “ 7-25-98.
- “ “ 8-6-88.

2

- 2c “ 7-1-98.
- “ “ 7-25-98.
- $2\frac{1}{2}c$ “ 1898.
- “ “ 8-6-98.

1

- 5c “ 8-6-98.

Of the last there two varieties of the figure 6. There has never been found so far, any block letter cancellations on the $1\frac{1}{4}c$, $1\frac{3}{8}c$, $3\frac{3}{4}c$ and the 4c. And it is safe to say that none exist in these values, especially the three last enumerated. I trust my correspondents will notify me if any errors or

omissions to this list. Next month I intend to give a list of the monogram surcharges of the J. E. Lee Co., also the list of Chas. Fletcher.

In a recent number of the Metropolitan, J. W. Scott speaks of the beauty and value of proofs. He mentions the fact of Mr. Mendei's going in and making a fine collection of proofs, which after his death realized twenty thousand dollars for his estate. He concludes by saying that proofs and essays are the most sought after stamps in the whole field of philately today, and predicts that they are the coming feature in our hobby. This leads me to enquire as to proofs of U. S. Revenues. I have seen very few of these, and as to proofs of Match and Medicine stamps, they must be scarce indeed. I should like to get up a list of these, and ask my correspondents to write me concerning them. The largest collection of this kind in the world is owned by Mr. H. E. Deats. He obtained through Mr. Sterling some years ago, all the remainders and proofs contained in the papers and correspondence of the late Jos. R. Carpenter, the government contractor and engraver. Mr. Carpenter, the engraver printed the Match & Medicine stamps, and frequently they were printed in various colors to be submitted to customers for their approval.

When the Boston Revenue Book was published, a mass of information regarding proofs was collected and put at the disposal of the compilers, but the size of the book prevented its incorporation.

In Mekeel's Stamp Collector for November 30, there is an article on United States coins illustrated with

fac similes of the cents, half cents, the Louisiana Purchase Gold Dollar and other coins of this country. By the repeal lately of the act of 1891 prohibiting the publishing and printing of illustrations of money, it is now possible to do this. The thought occurs to me that in the contemplated M & M album, we might have half-tone reproductions of these stamps. These issues are obsolete, and there is a well founded rumor that a petition to reproduce these in monotone would be looked upon favorably. It might be well to petition for permission to illustrate. The Hon. Bores Penrose, U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania, is the author of the amended bill.

Lately I procuree a lot of stamp literature at auction in Philadelphia. Among the lot is a very ambitious work, though unfortunately it was never completed, "A Complete Cyclopoedia of all the United States Revenue Stamps," including Document, Match, Medicine, Playing Card, Stamped Checks, Tinfoil and Paper Tobacco Wrappers, Snuff, Tobacco, Beer, Spirit, and other Tax Stamps. Octavo size, 96 pages. By Oscar Scarlett, printed in Philadelphia by Wm. E. Scarlett, 1883. The preface is signed by the compiler and dated March 4, 1885. Very accurate, and beautifully printed. A splendid work.

As a record price we have the Lambert 2½ cent provisional bringing \$1.40 recently at auction. I should say this is very cheap.

The Interior Department has finally decided to use the new official design for its penalty envelope, having had the new device on trial in one bureau for some time. It is a great improvement over the recent three straight lines of type.

"Were revenue stamps ever counterfeited?" Was recently asked. It will be remembered that E. B. Sterling was made the recipient of \$1000 from the United States Government for the detection of a counterfeit beer stamp. The 1c Proprietary, red, was counterfeited and the perpetrators arrested before many got out. The 1c blue "Henning & Bonback," a very scarce stamp indeed, cataloged at \$8.00, was counterfeited by the proprietors themselves. The 1c B. & H. D. Harvard was also counterfeited, this last also by the firm themselves, in order to cheat the government. In both the latter cases the proprietors were tried and convicted for defrauding the Revenue Department. But in all these cases the counterfeiting was not done for the purpose of palming them off on stamp collectors, so there are no reprints. And I should think that the counterfeits were much more valuable than the originals themselves. I have never seen any.

Recently I secured a block of 3 of the 1 cent blue Mansfield & Higsbee, silk which was perforated all around, but not through the middle. This stamp is found often in blocks of 4 as the firm used them thus on their preparations costing \$1.00. Whether the government made a slip merely or perforated them thus by design is a question. Time was often short in those days.

All the hand cancellation stamps used by the United States Government have for more than forty years been made by one family. Benjamin Chambers, son of the original steel cancellation stamp maker, is the present proprietor of this monopoly.

Postage Stamps for the St. Louis World's Fair.

WORD has reached us that the that the postoffice department has decided upon designs for the stamps to be in commemoration of the St. Louis World's Fair.

The one cent stamp will have the portrait of Robert R. Livingston; the two cent stamp, that of Thomas Jefferson; three cent, that of William McKinley; the ten cent stamp, a map of the United States, showing the territory purchased from France.

The stamps to be about the size of the Chicago World's Fair stamps.

Robert R. Livingston was born in New York, Nov. 27, 1846. He was an American statesman and jurist; a member of the Continental Congress, Chancellor of the state of New York 1777-81, Secretary of Foreign Affairs 1781 to 82, and United States Minister to France 1801-1804. He negotiated the Louisiana purchase in 1803 and was associated with Fulton in furthering steamboat navigation. He died Feb. 26, 1813.

Thomas Jefferson was the third president of the United States. He was a fine scholar and a most variously accomplished young man. He was a bold horseman, a skilled hunter, an elegant penman, a fine violinist, a brilliant talker, a superior classical scholar, and proficient in modern languages. That immortal document, the Declaration of Independence was with the exception of a few words, entirely his own work. Like Washington, he was of aristocratic birth, but his principles were intensely democratic which endeared him to the common people. He was inaugurated March 4, 1801.

Burr was Vice President. His second inauguration took place 1805.

Governor Clinton of New York, vice president. His second election was the first one held under the amended constitution, which provides that both president and vice president shall be voted for and chosen by the electors, the same as they are at the present day.

James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States was born in Westmoreland, Virginia, in 1759. He died July 4, 1831. March 3, 1817 he was inaugurated president, and on March 5 (the 4th being Sunday) he was inaugurated for his second term. At his second inauguration ladies as well as gentlemen were present, the first time that ladies have been mentioned as being present. And also the first time the ceremony had taken place in the open air in Washington. The scene was characterized by grandeur and simplicity. The Marine band furnished the music and the evening closed the festivities in a grand ball at Davis Hotel, at which the president appeared. James Monroe was an upright man; Jefferson said of him "If his soul were turned inside out, not a spot would be found upon it." Like that friend he died poor in this world's goods, but rich in honor; and like him also he passed away on the anniversary of the country he had served so faithfully.

William McKinley, whose portrait adorns the five cent stamp, was the twenty-fifth president of the United States. He was born in Ohio, Jan. 29, 1843. He served in the civil war, rank of Major, he was attorney for Stark county, Ohio, 1869-71; was a member of Congress from Ohio 1877-81; was elected governor of the state of Ohio 1881 by the republican party, and was reelected in 1893 by about eight thousand majority. March 4, 1897 he was inaugurated president of the United

States. His term in that high office was cut short by the hand of the assassin during the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, F. Y. and cast a gloom over the world at large. He was a grand man, had served his country well and was an honor to every position held by him. His devotion to his invalid wife, whose comfort was his first thought, endeared him to all nations.

J. W. Scott, the father of philately in America, says:—Advertising to be successful must be persistent. Spasmodic offering of unimportant stamps can rarely be successful. To dealers outside of the few great cities the only possible road to success is steady advertising, and it will be noticed that every successful dealer, without any exception, is a steady advertiser. It is scarcely to be expected that the best class of buyers will write to every new advertiser whose announcement appears in the papers. Many have been defrauded by unscrupulous dealers, so that the average collector rarely writes to a new firm until he has seen the name often enough to recognize it as a standard house, and then sooner or later he is sure to write for some stamp he has been unable to procure from the firm with whom he usually trades. Undoubtedly large advertisements will build up a business quicker than small ones.

Good Advice, But—!

Mekeel's Stamp Collector.

The stamps of the United States are good stamps to buy. In fact if you are in moderate circumstances, I say, stick to the stamps of your own country and get them all. It is better to finish a cottage than dig the cellar of a palace.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the lines of those below, are requested to send a copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst gebeten ein Tauschexemplar regelmassig an den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont priés d'envoyer un exemplaire en échange a l'adresse sous-donnée.

Deseames recibir esemplares de cambio de las publicaciones filatelicas estranjers a la adresa enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149, Manchester, Wis, U S A

REVIEW OF FOREIGN PAPERS.

Our readers will remember that the International Postal union intends to erect a monument at Bern in commemoration of its foundation 25 years ago. Designs were called for and prizes offered. The competition was held September 23-25 and No. 11 of the *Vertrauliches Korrespondenz-Blatt* reports on the result. One hundred and twenty designs were sent in; only 15 were at all available. Six of these were finally voted on. The first prize was awarded to a German sculptor named Hundrieser, the second to an artist named Morin, also of Berlin; the third and fourth to French artists, the fifth to an Italian, the sixth again to a German. Nevertheless none of these designs were entirely satisfactory and a new competition between these six artists was arranged for. This is to close August 1, 1904.

Since the trouble about British official stamps other countries have likewise become concerned about their official stamps. The same paper reports that the German postal authorities recently confiscated a lot of unused copies of the Prussian officials used during 1903 and has instigated an inquiry as to where the dealer obtained them. Other dealers have been notified that the possession of such unused official stamps will be considered a

punishable offense.

An interesting note refers to reprints of the early issues of Wuerttemberg, especially the 1 kr. brown and 3 kr. yellow. These were reprinted in 1866. At that time the authorities had no more supply of the Dickinson paper with orange thread, hence they borrowed some from Bavaria, where it was still in use. The Bavarian paper had a red thread, but none of this was sent; instead paper with green thread was sent, which properly belonged to the Swiss stamps, then being printed at Muenchen. This makes these reprints something unique, three different postal administrations being concerned in them. Fortunately they are scarce and not apt to bother our readers.

In No. 11 of the *Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung* M. Molin writes at length on the designs shown in the competition for the Postal union monument, to which I have already referred. I wish I had the space to quote the article at length; his descriptions of the designs adopted and non-adopted are extremely amusing. From his critique it appears that the decision of the jury not to adopt any one design for execution was well justified.

M. Ellenberger, who has spent considerable time in various African colonies, takes exception to an article by Mr. Howes, our well-known American writer, in which Mr. Howes stated that the three issues for the Spanish colonies of Fernando Poo, Guinea and Elobey, Annobon y Corisco were unnecessary, as the three colonies together have but one post office, Sta. Isabel on Fernando Poo. Mr. Ellenberger does not wish to defend the necessity of these issues, but argues that a great injustice has been done to these colonies, as each of them has a post office of its own, Bata in Guinea and Elobey on the island of the same name. I doubt, nevertheless, whether this fact will make them any more acceptable to collectors.

Philately is indeed getting old! In No. 278 of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* M. Maury, the veteran publisher and dealer, announces that in July, 1904, his paper will celebrate its fortieth birthday, having been founded in July, 1864. M. Maury will celebrate the event by issuing a gorgeous jubilee number. Just you wait till the West is 40 years old and then Brodstone will show you something worth seeing!

A set of French colonials surcharged for Longtcheou in China has lately been chronicled in the press. M. Maury has been informed that this office was closed before the stamps ever got there; so now you are aware of their status.

A sad state of affairs is disclosed in the following from a correspondent in Italy:

"Because of a near decrease of the letter rate for the interior, which will be reduced from 20 to 15 centesimi, the minister of posts and telegraphs has ordered from the Bank Note printing office 80,000,000 of 15 centesimi stamps to complete the present series. The new stamps are all ready, but still without gum, the money allotted for the purpose being exhausted. At present I cannot tell you when this stamp will be issued."

It now remains for the original gum cranks to take up a collection among themselves so that these unfortunate stamps need no longer remain without their chief adornment.

Everybody knows what a complicated affair the Philippine surcharges of Spanish times are. M. Maury has evolved a new system for their classification which appears quite lucid on casual inspection. I hope to reproduce it in another number, as it ought to prove interesting.

Let our stamp papers look out for their caricatures. The C. de T.-P. in a late number had a most amusing caricature on the new French "sower"

stamp, representing the sower as an old milk woman. This number was confiscated at Beirut in Turkey by the postal authorities as dangerous and anarchistic! Nevertheless M. Maury, undismayed, has another caricature in this number—a base travesty on the two-cent Columbian of our own country, representing a cake walk of the most exaggerated type.

No. 9 of the *Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica Argentina* gives a full account of the late philatelic exhibition held under the auspices of the Argentine society. It is illustrated with a view of the large hall used for the show, well filled with visitors and with reproductions of the medals and diploma. The list of rarities exhibited gives one a feeling of great respect for Argentine philately and we congratulate the Argentine society on the successful carrying out of this exhibition. The rarities shown were, of course, largely Argentine and South American; much attention was paid to fiscals.

Scott's catalogue distinguishes two types of the French 5 fr. stamp of 1863. No. 5 of *La Cote Reelle* makes this stamp and its types the subject of a special article. The design of this stamp was copied from a revenue stamp; only the fiscal was an upright rectangle, while this is horizontal. The 5 and the F, as is well known, were surcharged at a second printing; the idea in not inserting them on the plate proper was that the postal authorities intended to use the same frame with different surcharge for 10 and 20 fr. stamps also. For unknown reasons this intention was never carried out. The article distinguishes three varieties of the surcharge; they can easily be distinguished by counting the lines of the background. In type I. the figure 5 touches and intersects 13 of the five horizontal lines of the background; in type II. only 11 lines and in type III. 12 lines. The

differences in the F are less easily described; that of type I. is somewhat taller than the others.

A melancholy piece of news comes from Martinique. M. Emile Merwart, colonial secretary of French Guiana, has searched the ruins of St. Pierre, the city overwhelmed by Mont Pelee, and has found in the ashes the remains of his brother, Paul Merwart, who was one of the victims of the eruption. This concerns us philatelists, because Merwart was the designer of divers French colonials, e. g. the French Congo set, the new design for Madagascar, a new set, not yet issued, for French Guiana, the new set for the Somali coast and others, some of which have not yet been made public.

Szekula Briefmarken-Verkehr in No. 35 reports that the celebrated painter, Michetti, has completed designs for new Italian postage stamps and that they are to be printed before long. No definite information as to the designs is as yet given.

At The Hague—so relates the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzelgkunde* in No. 11—a trial is being made with an automatic machine for the sale of stamps. The 2½-cent value was the one experimented with. The first trial was unsatisfactory, because the paper of these stamps was too thin. For this reason they have been specially printed for use in this machine on thicker paper; this paper is yellowish in color instead of bluish, as the ordinary. The stamps on this paper are not printed in sheets, but in long strips of 500 stamps each. A collector of entire sheets would be somewhat puzzled what to do with such "sheets."

In No. 12 the same paper reports that Portugal was to issue a set of postage due stamps on January 1, 1904; the values have been prepared; 5 reis bistre, 10 r. orange, 30 r. dark green, 40 r. lilac, 50 r. red, 100 r. light blue. A very much needed value has been

forgotten: 130 reis for unpaid foreign letters; it will presumably follow. The colonies are also to receive postage dues of the above values, but in a different design.

A good deal of uproar has been caused in European philatelic circles of late by suspicious V. R. I. surcharges on stamps of the South African republic. In connection therewith the following will prove of interest:

"In the beginning of June, 1900, after the occupation of Pretoria by the British, the staff of the state printing office was ordered to surcharge the stamps of the South African republic found at Pretoria with V. R. I. The control of the surcharging was very careless, so that one of the officials secretly brought used stamps of the S. A. R., which he owned, gathered and purchased, under the press and thus had them surcharged. For this he naturally selected specimens on which the year of the postmark was illegible. In 1901 he sent me (Mr. Tuiven, Utrecht) some of these stamps, viz.: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d. and 6d., all with inverted surcharge; he also had made the 5 and 10sh. with the usual surcharge. He wanted to use me as a channel for getting rid of these forgeries; he said that he had 40 more sets with inverted surcharge. I warned him, etc, etc."

Mr. Tuiven refused to handle them and so did a well-known German dealer. Now as to the stamps themselves:

"The used stamps surcharged by him can be recognized by the fact that they all bear the postmarks of the defunct republic, viz: with Z. A. R. in the ring. This is nevertheless no stringent proof, because in the early months of the occupation the old unchanged postmarks of the former S. A. republic were employed and I have such genuine postmarks on V. R. I. stamps up to the end of August, 1900. After this the new postmarks (without Z. A. R.) were employed. Postmarks from the

beginning of June, 1900, to the end of August, 1900, with the Z. A. R. postmarks may thus be genuine. For the largest offices (Pretoria, Johannesburg, etc.) the old postmarks of the republic remained in use, the letters Z. A. R. in the lower part of the circle being removed and replaced by nothing, by a star or stars, by a figure, by TVAAL, or by TRANSVAAL. Except that the surcharge V. R. I. on the counterfeits is sometimes placed over the postmark, and except those stamps where another year than 00 and other months than June, July and August occur in the postmark, the counterfeits cannot be told from the genuine, as the surcharge V. R. I. was made with the same type, the same ink, etc."

These are rather peculiar counterfeits, made from identically the same material as the genuine and still no good!

Nos. 37 and 38 of *El Filatelico Espanol* continue and conclude the valuable article of Sr. Carreras y Candi on the war tax stamps of Spain. It is something of a novelty to see revenue stamps so thoroughly written up as this, but I would wish that all fiscals might be investigated and elucidated in this manner. The serial catalogue is also continued, four pages per month.

The French are certainly patriotic and, moreover, there isn't much love lost between them and the Britishers, hence the following wail from *La Cote Reelle* No. 2 is significant:

"If one is proud of being a Frenchman when one contemplates the column (i. e. on the Place Vendome), this pride diminishes considerably when one compares the work of the British stamp printers with that of the printers of these poor, measly, emaciated, foolish, inconsistent, washed-out African stamps (i. e. the new set for the French Somali coast). M. Lemaire makes the text for a long eulogy

on the new King Edward British colonials and a scathing criticism of the late French colonial issues.

The catalogues list two types of the 40-cent stamps of the first French issue; the difference lies in the figure 4. M. Lemaire has discovered a third type which is midway between the two already known. The angle of the diagonal stroke is about the same as that of the first type, but it sticks out over the vertical stroke somewhat like the second type, for which it is easily mistaken. "Nearly all 40 centimes stamps are of the 4 of the first two types (i. e. the first one of the catalogues and this new one). There were only two stamps on the sheet which were of type 3 (type 2 of the catalogues). These two stamps were placed side by side and are Nos. 6 and 7 of the last row of the right half-sheet." It seems odd that Scott's catalogue does not price them accordingly. In European catalogues the rare variety is priced at about \$20.

The *Revisa de la Sociedad Filatelica Cubana* in its No. 10 devotes considerable space to an article on the 1870 issue of the United States in which the work of the various bank note companies is described at length and a simplified catalogue of these issues given. In another article the manufacture of the Spanish stamps of the present day is described at length. In No. 11 the same issues of the United States as before are again taken up and the distinguishing characteristics of these puzzling varieties described in a very minute and painstaking manner, which would convey much information even to many an American collector. I must congratulate our Cuban friends on the high quality they maintain in their paper.

Collectors by this time have, no doubt, all seen pictures of the new Swedish 5 kr. stamp. It shows a picture of the new general post office at Stockholm and was issued in honor of

its completion. No. 12 of the Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidskrift brings an interesting account of the description of the new post office. From the description it seems to be a magnificent building, indeed; its total cost is about \$837,000, and the writer proudly states that the Swedish post office department was able to erect this building from its surplus earnings! What a contrast to Uncle Sam's post office, whose annual deficit is about ten times the cost of this building! Whether the Swedish post office department expects to recover part of the cost of this building from the sale of 5 kronor stamps to collectors, deponent sayeth not.

Notes For U S Collectors

By E. R. Aldrich

MR. John P. Lovch of Alton, Ill., shows me fine varieties of the current envelope in which there are differences in the cuecue of the wig, and also states he has a sixth one still different. There is evidently an interesting field for study in these stamps.

The request for knowledge of St. Paul two cent and three cent values in my notes recently, brought several replies from "Gopher State" collectors, and it can be definitely stated that the one, two, three and five cent can be found reading both up and down in the "St. Paul" variety. In the other varieties I have seen the four cent and ten cent reading up and the thirteen cent reading down. Who has any others. In the St. Paul, Minn. I have one and two cent both ways and three cent down. Who has others? These are the the 1902 issue.

Richard H. Edwards writes relative to the color variety on the Chicago surcharge which some collectors are making a separate set of. "I do not consider the socalled gray ink a variety but call all black as I believe that in winter the postoffice ink, normally black, if very cold looks gray when dry."

Fort Wayne, Ind., Northampton, Mass., are now employing neat devices out of the ordinary name and bar rut, which is a pleasing relief to the eye. Jackson, Mich., also continues to use their round design.

The Louisiana Purchase issue will undoubtedly be as stimulating to collecting as the Pan American was. The three lower values will depict the Americans who were to the greater extent responsible for the purchase. The presence of Jefferson's portrait on the two cent Exposition and on the fifty cent ordinary will be the first occurance in a number of years of two stamps current with the same portrait. The placing of McKinley on the five cent will introduce that martyred president into the stampic photograph gallery, a wish of the great majority of collectors ever since his death. The map stamp will be a new departure for the United States and will probably be modelled after the sticker sent forth by the Exposition Authorities. Let us hope that it will be more creditable than the Canadian one.

"The Jewish," writes Mr. Charles E. Jenney, in "Mekeel's Stamp Collector," "is not the only nation without a country. Many a collector striving to work up a profitable foreign exchange, has been surprised at the wide spread dissemination of the Tartar.

Stamp

Curiosities.

By Henry H. Huff

DURING recent years it has been the custom of many magazines and newspapers to devote a portion of their space in each issue to interesting statistics concerning the largest, smallest, most costly, unique, etc., of almost everything we might think of.

It seems to be the nature of the American people to appreciate these curious facts and accounts of extremes to which certain objects or things have been carried. However, we have no record as to any such facts having been compiled concerning stamps.

In view of furnishing some such an arrangement, the following curious facts which have been gathered from various sources, are here presented:

The smallest stamp on record is the 10c. of Bolivar Columbia, which was issued in 1863. Although quite elaborate in design, this tiny affair measures scarcely one half inch on a side. As to the largest stamp, I am unable to state definitely, but if revenues are to be considered, it would doubtless belong to Spain or Mexico.

The highest known value of a single stamp is the £20 of South Australia. The lowest, the ½ milestino of Cuba and Porto Rico, and the ¼c. of Spain, each having a value equal to about one twentieth of an American cent.

The handsomest stamp is the 5c 1894 issue, but as to the opposite in appearance there is much difference in opinion.

The plainest stamp is the twelve cent of British Guinea, issued in 1850. The stamp bore the following rudely printed words: "British Guiana, 12 cents," which were arranged within a circle. As to the opposing variety, no decision can be satisfactorily made.

it has been the opinion of many that the 1902 issue two cent, would approach very near to it.

The Korea 5mu. of 1884 was used on one day only.

The first stamp ever issued by authority of the government, was the Mulready envelope stamp of Great Britain, which was first placed on sale May 6, 1840. The stamp was quite large and represented Britannia sending forth letters to all parts of the world.

The first triangular stamp was the one penny Cape of Good Hope, issued in 1853.

The first memorial stamps ever issued were those of Great Britain, issued in 1887 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign.

The first surcharged stamp we have record of is the 25c of France, issued in 1850. The supply of 25c having given out, a portion of the unused 20c on hand, were surcharged 25c and used until more 25c stamps could be printed.

The rarest stamp is, doubtless, the 1c 1856 of British Guiana, only one specimen being known to exist at the present time.

Among the most curiously engraved stamps are those of several native Indian states, which was printed on Ivory, and wood engraved stamp, the 10c, 1858 issue of New Caledonia

The demand for the new series of 4 and 6cents envelopes is quite limited; not equaling, in fact, the customary demand of these denominations.

**The Dr. K. & Co.
Provisional I. R.**

By J. M. Brooks

HAVING had some special opportunity for observation of these interesting stamps, I take this liberty of calling your attention to them.

There is a popular notion that they have absolutely no status. Let us see. You will remember that a couple of months ago, much prominence was given a provisional Antikan via $\frac{1}{8}$ c provisional. This stamp seems to have been welcomed and accepted by our army of Revenue collectors. Why not the Dr. K. & Co. Provisionals? They are enumerated under like conditions and served the purpose of Revenue Stamp.

Perhaps a little history will make it clearer. You, no doubt, all remember that the beginning of the use of our late War Tax Stamp, the government was to supply them on or before July 1st, as that was to be the date of the beginning of their use. You all, no doubt remember that the revenue department was unable to furnish them as early as that date, nor, in fact, for about two weeks later. As a result, many persons or corporations made affidavit to the amount to the of revenue required and paid the cash, not being able to use these stamps, owing to them being unobtainable. Others as the antikammia and Vandyke Bitters people issued the so-called Provisionals alluded to above respectively. While the Dr. Kilmsr & Co., of Binghamton, N. Y., surcharged the 1c, 2c and 3c postage, with the name of firm, date, and the letters, I. R. These were used on all medicines shipped from July 5 to July 13 inclusive. The legality of this was questioned and a large consignment was seized by the Revenue authorities in Philadelphia, where upon receipt of an affidavit from the

company and upon careful investigation, the authorities were satisfied that this act of using the postage stamps, surcharged I. R., was done by the company in good faith, and at a loss of some \$300.00 to the company. This latter being due to the postage stamps used being of a higher value than the revenue stamps required (E. J.) a 3c postage was used where a $2\frac{1}{2}$ c revenue was required.

In view of all this, the revenue commissioner decided that all goods shipped from July 5th to July 13, inclusive, should be held as good. Thus giving them the sanction of the U. S. Government.

This, then should put them on a basis equally as good as the Antikamma printed provisionals. Thus making it clear that they should be at least, recognized in the collection of side-issues, if not in the general run of collecting revenues.

As to varieties, only the 1c, 2, and 3c were used. Three different types were used, and eight different dates are found imprinted. The three types are what have been called Roman, Celtic and Gothic. The Roman consists of three horizontal lines. 1st line Dr. K & Co. 2nd line, I. R., 3rd line, 7-5-'98. This type is found only with one date as above and all those denominations of the stamps are surcharged.

The Celtic type consists of the imprint on five horizontal lines: 1st line Dr. and Co.; 2nd line, I. R.; 3rd line, Binghamton; 4th line, N. Y.; 5th line, the date. The following are found: 7-5, 7-6, 7-7, 7-8, 7-9, 7-11, 7-12, 7-13, 7-14

The Gothic type arrangement is the same as Celtic only the type is different. The dates are the same except the Gothic not found on the 7-6. The 1c, 2c, and 3c are found in each date and each type alike, except as above and below stated. The 3c is not found dated 7-13 or 7-14. The 1c is not found dated 7-12. The same to apply to the

Gothic and Celtic types. Each of the dates is followed by '98 as in the Roman. There are 36 varieties, therefore, exclusive of minor varieties of which there are several. The color of the ink used is black. Although red and blue have been seen. They, perhaps, were trial colors, as they were used only on some of the the 7-5-'98.

I am indebted to Mr. J. W. George, for much information and who, perhaps, has the most complete collection of these stamps in existence. Mr. George has an exhaustion article on these stamps in the December (1901) "A. J. of Philately." I would advise all interested in them to read it.

I do not see how these stamps, with all their interest attached, can be secluded from the collection of a Roman specialist, or even a set of the 1-2-3c to be secluded by the amateur.

They deserve recognition and if their history were more fully known, they would be recognized.

I would be pleased to see this matter taken up by those competent to deal with it, and make a thorough classification and go into the matter exhaustively. Thereby placing them on a proper footing. Mr. J. W. George has promised to do this at some time, but I learn that circumstances are such that he is unable to do so, now.

While I realize that I may not be perfectly accurate in every detail, yet I have endeavored to give briefly, some few points on these stamps that I hope will awaken the interest in some collectors and perhaps induce some one more competent than I to treat the matter more exhaustively. If I succeed in this purpose, I feel that I will be amply repaid for this small effort I have made in writing this.

One advertisement one time is about as forlorn as the last cent in a purse—and does about as much good.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL AND OTHERWISE

The Birmingham (England) Philatelic society has a stamp collection of 8,000 varieties. The society has 318 members

On Nov. 18, John F. Seybold of Syracuse, spoke before the section of philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and sciences.

Bright & Son of London, England, have purchased the remainder of the 1896 and 1898 issues of Zanzibar. The stamps are all cancelled.

The London Philatelic society has 227 members. The Prince of Wales is the president of the society and the Earl of Crawford is the vice-president.

The November number of the Literary Monthly, which is published by the students of Columbia University, contains a stamp story, entitled "The Workers of Iniquity."

If enough support is received, George J. Carter, a stamp dealer residing in Brooklyn, will undertake the publication of a stamp album, which will provide especially for match and medicine stamps.

A Philatelic paper, the Marki i Kolleksimer, is published in St. Petersburg, Russia, once in two weeks. The paper, is printed in both the Russian and German languages.

If you know how to get at the right people in the right way, you know enough to make your advertising pay.



GENUINE

COUNTERFEIT

Counterfeits And Their Detection.

By R. R. Theile

(CONTINUED)

BADEN—The 18 Kreuzer green of 1864 (Scott No. 24) isn't half a bad stamp to imitate; its price makes it worth while. Accordingly the festive counterfeiter has got in his work on it and I have before me two different forgeries of this stamp: the one illustrated above on the bottom and another one of which I have no cut at my disposal. As usual, the lettering supplies a good test. The two 'K's' of the original, in Kreuzer and in Freimarke, have as distinguishing characteristics the way in which the two short bars join the main stem; they barely touch it—in fact they are sometimes even separated from it by a very fine line of color, as seen above in the K of Freimarke in the lefthand cut. In the forgeries, on

the lefthand cut. In the forgeries, on the contrary—both of them—the juncture of the smaller bars with the main stem is quite wide and heavy. On the original the two lower extremitities of the K's and R's are all of even length. This is true also of the forgeries, but not of the one above illustrated; here the right leg of the first R in Kreuzer, the right leg of the second R in Freimarke and the left leg of the second K in the latter word are longer than the corresponding leg. The U of Kreuzer appears to be a little taller than the other letters of this word; this seems also the case with the M of Freimarke. On the original the 1 of 18 has a serif F thinner than the main stem of the figure; on the forgery above illustrated the serif F is quite the same thickness as the main stem. The two coat-of-arms are so well imitated that the slight differences existing can hardly be described in words; the above cuts will enable you to hunt them out for yourself. Compare, for instance, the length of the feathers in the wings of the two beasts, the markings on the wings, the contours of the beaks of the animals, etc. The right hind leg of the right hand supporter furnishes a test. On the original, the claw of this leg partly covers the supporting ribbon; on the original, the claw of this leg partly covers the supporting ribbon. In general the shading of both griffins on the above counterfeit is much more indistinct than that of the original; also rather lighter along the belly and the inner part of the legs which on the original are shaded quite heavily. On the other counterfeit, I cannot compare the entire lower half of the coat-of-arms very well, as it is covered in large part by obliteration. It can be seen that the shading of the bodies in the parts just mentioned is rather heavier than that of the original. The wings and heads afford room

for close comparisons, but the differences are not easily described. For one, the eye of the lefthand griffin on this second forgery is quite round and stands out quite prominently, while on the original it is more in the shape of a slit and not very well marked. The ducal crown on the shield of the originals is very clearly drawn and the trefoils above its lower ring stand out quite clearly. On the counterfeit illustrated above the crown is not so bad, but on the other counterfeit it is quite lopsided and the trefoils are hardly recognizable as such. The crown should begin on the shield at the left of the place where the diagonal bar ends, but on this forgery it begins exactly at the point where the diagonal comes up, so that the entire lower part of the crown is thrown too far to the right. This second forgery shows another good test feature. The dots in the field of the shield on the original are arranged in regular rows in every direction. The first forgery also shows them thus arranged, but on the second forgery, they are quite irregularly distributed; the only direction in which any resemblance of order is distinguishable, is from left to right downwards. The vertical lines in the diagonal bar are also much coarser than those of the original. The lettering of this forgery is, on the whole, better than that of the first described, but it shows some defects, nevertheless, besides the K already described. The two legs of the A in Baden should be of equal thickness, but on this forgery the left leg is much thinner than the righthand one. Similarly the righthand vertical stroke of the N of the same word is thinner than the rest of the letter. The ornaments in the corners are quite coarse and show little of the lacelike detail of those on the original. If you have no genuine 18kr. at hand, you may

compare a suspect as to these details with any stamp of the A2 and A3 designs in Scott, i. e., and one from No. 10 to No. 25, as all were made from the same original die. Originals of these sets are often, in fact usually, found with the well-known five-ring postmark. The second forgery bears a fair imitation of one but as these five ring postmarks are a chapter for themselves, I shall not here attempt to enter into details. The first forgery bears some indistinct date stamp.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Stamp Buttons.

(F. E. Halbert, South Berwick, Me.)

While I do not wish to antagonize anyone who has previously discussed this subject in these columns, but I wish to say in my opinion all stamp collectors would be glad to let other collectors, especially total strangers, know that philately is one of their hobbies; for there is such a fraternal feeling among collectors that who among them does not like to meet a kindred spirit? A button (call it something else, if you like) would be the stamp collector's wireless telegraphy. By a button, I do not mean anything along the lines of some of the caustic remarks previously indulged in, but a neat, small one, costing perhaps fifty cents each, which would meet with general approval. A button that is not conspicuous enough to attract the attention or curiosity of the general public. Who would be ashamed to wear such an emblem? Are the Odd Fellows ashamed of their links? the Mason his square or compafs?

Boys who possess a 10 cent collection are not apt to invest in a 50 cent button to parade as a philatelists. The emblem would fail in its purpose, if it was issued in more than one design. Just whoop it up for an emblem, then decide on a committee to choose a design.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY ?

Conducted by
L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

147—WHAT PORTRAITS ARE THOSE ON

THE STAMPS OF COLUMBIA?—The first portrait on the issue of 1881 is allegorical, the head of liberty. In the issue of 1886, we find on the 2c, General Sucre, a fighter for liberty and independence and president of Upper Peru (Bolivia) from 1825-27. This is all I know of him. On the 5c, we have Senorio Bolivar, an account of whom was given under No 57, in this department of the WEST, for September, 1902. The 10c shows President Unnez and the 20c General Narinos, neither of which I have any account. On the Antiquoia issue of 1875 appears (according to Kohl's catalogue) Berrio on the 10c, and on the issue of 1899, Gen-Cordova. On the values of 10c to 50c, of 1902, we see Girardot, and on the pesos Dr. J. Felix de Restrepo. When these men lived and what made them famous, I am at loss to tell. The stamps of the department of Bolivar have the Bolivar referred to above. Boyaca has the image of Governor Mendoza Perez, also unknown to me. Will the readers of the WEST please help me out?

148—WHY ARE SOME OF THE ENGLISH STAMPS OF 1856 TO 1880 FOUND WITH VERY WIDE MARGINS AT THE RIGHT OR LEFT, WHILE TOP AND BOTTOM ARE NEARLY ALWAYS CORRECT?—These stamps printed in four panes of 60 stamps each were perforated at Somerset House, and instead of perforating two lines along the inner edge of the panes, the machine made one line

of peeforation only along the middle of the space, separating the right and left panes. This space was about as wide as the width of one stamp. The margin on the inside (vertical) rows of each pane has half the width of a stamp, accordingly. When in 1880 De La Rue & Co. began to do the perforating at their factory, this was remedied by perforating two lines between the panes.

149—WHAT IS MEANT BY THE STAMPS

OF SARDINIA?—The early issues of Italy, before 1861. The King of Sardinia, Victor Emanuel II., with the help of Napoleon III., overcame the Austrian influence in Italy; joined the other states to his own, and so formed the Kingdom of Italy (1861). In some of the states Sardinian stamps were used before the formal declaration of the united kingdom; after the declaration they were used in all states until the new issue was made. So in fact the stamps of Sardinia became the stamps of the Kingdom of Italy. There are some embossed papers of 1817-21, issued by Sardinia representing a tax or duty on correspondence. 12 to 15 years ago, these were by some catalogues, enumerated under stamped envelopes.

150—WHAT MAKES THE 30c. 1879, OF ITALY SO SCARCE AND HIGH-PRICED?

—In the first place, it was a value very little used during the 10 years of its currency, consequently used copies are seldom found. In the second place, the large remainder of unused stock was in 1890, surcharged with the value of 20c., and so used, leaving only a very small quantity of the unused 30c., in private hands. With the surcharge the stamp is quite common, both used and unused.

151—WHAT MAKES THE 50 AND 100 L. SEGUA TASSA STAMPS OF ITALY, SO CHEAP AS COMPARED WITH THE 5

AND 10 L?—The highest value was used most on postal account, something like our newspaper stamps, while the lower values were principally used in the regular way as due stamps. The postal accounts were finally sold as waste-paper and from them the 50 and 100 L. stamps were rescued in large numbers. Some of them were probably not cancelled, and may now be offered as unused copies.

152—HOW IS THE POSTAL PACKET MAIL DISTINGUISHED FROM OUR 3RD AND 4TH CLASS MAIL?—The postal packet mail carries larger and weightier parcels at cheaper rates than our 3rd and 4th classes. It enters competition with the express companies, while our 3rd and 4 do not, except on very long distances. The parcels post (an other name for postal packet mail) seems to me a great improvement over our 3rd and 4th class. If the express companies were less powerful, we might as well have the advantage of the parcel post as the European countries. Our government ought to break the express monopolies.

153—WHAT INFORMATION IS THE MOST NECESSARY FOR A BEGINNER IN STAMP COLLECTING?—That's a pretty hard question to answer in a small space. Get any good album and catalogue, a big variety packet (1000 or more), subscribe to and read the WEST, and patronize this department and you'll come out all right. If you will, get a few books too, as Tiffany's, or better yet, Luff's "History of U. S. Stamps, Westoby's "Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe," Nankivell's "Stamp Collecting As a Pastime," etc. What you want most is actual work on stamps; then experience will teach more and better than I can tell in a few lines.

154—ARE THERE ANY COUNTERFEITS OF THE U. S. PERIODICAL STAMPS OF 1865?—Yes, and it seems that they all come from Germany. Some of them

have the word "facsimile" printed on the face and are not very dangerous. Others were printed from different plates and without "facsimile." A 5c and 25c submitted to me are printed in paler or duller colors than the original stamps, they are smaller by 1 or 2mm than the originals and are printed poorly, especially the head in the center. The perforation is 12½ instead of 12 and is poorly done. They are not a new product, but were sold at Berlin, some 15 years ago, under the name of "reprints"

155—WHAT IS A "CISTAFILE"?—A box containing a number of cards, each of which is to hold one (or more) stamp in some respects similar to a card-index. It is made by Lawn & Barlow, London, England, and seems to find great favor as a novel means for mounting a collection. For beginners it is hardly to be recommended.

156—WHAT IS THE REASON THAT ON SOME OLD LETTERS FROM HONOLULU U. S. STAMPS WERE USED?—Mr. Luff, in No. 4 of McKeel's Weekly Stamp Mews, says: "For the convenience of those having foreign correspondence, the principal 1st offices in the Island had U. S. postage on sale. On letters addressed to the postage for that country might be paid by means of U. S. or Hawaiian stamps; in the latter case, settlement was made quarterly by the Postmaster General of Hawaii, to the U. S. Post Office Department, through the postmaster at San Francisco." This, of course, prior, to the entry of Hawaii into the Universal Postal Union. It seems though that Hawaiian stamps should be on the same, letter along side of the U. S. stamp to pay for carriage to the United States, as also the 13c stamps of 1853, indicate, dividing as they do, the 13c between the two countries and giving 8c to the U. S. and 5c to Hawaii. Any student of Hawaiian stamps will do well to get the above quoted number of McKell's paper, even at a premium, if necessary.

Is There History in Stamps?

By Verna W. Hathaway

THE year 1840 saw the introduction of the penny postage into Great Britain. In a few years the rest of the European countries followed suit. As a general rule postage stamps have been elegant and extremely interesting in design, and more often than not distinctly national; for instance, the pyramid stamps of Egypt, the Nicaraguan volcano, the Newfoundland cod-fish. The people of the United States have honored their great men by the placing of their portraits upon the postage. A recent issue shows in an extremely artistic manner the history of Columbus.

The oldest French stamps, without the perforated edging, shows the head of Liberty and the inscription "Repub. Franc." These are the relics of the years 1848-53, the time of the second Republic. A somewhat rarer issue has the same "Repub. Franc." with the head of Louis Napoleon. This issue was made while he was president of the Republic. A little later the legend was changed to "Empire Franc." Another issue which made one suspect a foreign policy added a laurel wreath. That policy led to Sedan; and in 1870 a Republic was again declared and Liberty once more made her appearance. Thus the history of France in the nineteenth century is accurately told by her stamps.

En land has been the country without a history. For over sixty years her stamps bore the image of the late queen. But now that Edward has come to the throne a new order of things is beginning to appear, as the recent issues attest.

Germany has been compared to a

menagerie, the various states, like wild beasts glaring through the bars. We find while illustrating the growth of Prussia and the use of the present German Empire, that Schleswig-Holstein, Hanover, Oldenburg, Brunswick, Mecklenberg-Schwein, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and the free cities Lubeck, Bremen, Hamburg, all had separate stamps before Prussia absorbed them.

The influence of Prussia was strengthened by the victory over Austria at Sadowa in 1866. In 1867 the North German Confederation was formed but the states south of the Main—Baden, Bavaria, Wertenburg, still kept separate stamps.

The early Austrian stamps show the head of Francis Josep, who came to the throne in 1848, and is still the emperor. When the Magyars of Hungary got the home rule in 1877 the emperor's portrait was still used on the stamp. This one raised a vision of a green stamp, with emblems, harp and shamrock, which represented the national aspirations, and the head of the sovereign in token of loyalty. The more recent Austrian stamps bear the double headed eagle, which may also be recognized on those of Venetia and Bosnia.

The growth of United Italy is very well shown. There are the obsolete stamps of (1) "Sardinia" (Sardinia, Piedmont, Savoy, Nice) with embossed head of Victor Emanuel; of three duchies (2) Tuscany, (3) Modena, (4) Parma; of (5) Sicily with the head of Ferdinand, and (6) Naples, his other provinces with its curious arms. In 1859 Austria was driven out of Lombardy, and the people of the duchies-legations voted for union with Sardinia. So the pope lost (7) Romagna. After Garibaldi's expedition (1865) appeared the first stamps of the provisional government, and then the

new stamps of the Neapolitan provinces with the head of Victor Emanuel. These stamps were not unlike those of Sardina, but inscribed in Grana. In 1861 Victor Emanuel was crowned king of Italy in Turin, and soon appeared a new stamp of Italy, now a country, no longer a "geographical expression." In 1866 Austria ceded through Napoleon (8) Venitia to Italy. The stamps (9) of the states of the church with the crossed keys of heaven and hell, were in use until 1870, when the Italian troops entered Rome.

The Eastern question is still unsolved. The forces now acting on the decay of the Turkish power are the difficulty of languages, races and religion, and the jealousies of other European powers. The star and crescent now floats over a smaller portion of the Balkan peninsula than it used to. In contrast with Italy what a difference we find. We see in Turkey the decay of empire.

The people of Montenegro make it their boast that they were never in bondage. Greece has been independent since 1829 and Mercury, the telegraph boy to the gods, is now in the employ of Greece on her stamps. In 1861 Roumania was formed by the union of Moldavia and Walachia. Servia was independent in 1862. The Russo-Turkish war of 1877 was followed by the treaty with Berlin in 1878. Bulgaria got home rule and stamps with the rampant lion. The Austrian arms appeared on the stamps of Bosnia.

The stamps of Livonia and Poland have given way to, and the stamps of Finland have become like, those of Russia. The same head of King Oscar appears on the stamps of Norway and Sweden, linking the two governments by one crown. The Iceland stamps illustrate the good feel-

ings between Denmark and Norway by the similarity of design. The currency convention of the Scandinavian countries is shown by various spellings (ore-our). In spite of all offers Luxemburg retains its own stamps.

So a collection of stamps holds an interesting picture of the historical and political condition of the world. Each stamp is characteristic of the country in which it is issued, and if studied gives us a variety of information concerning the powers of the world. Wars, treaties, revolutions, have happened before and will happen again. Collectors will look forward with interest to the problems of the future, and in stamps will find a faithful record of a state of continued flux and change.

A Song of Philately

BY V. W. H.

This is the philatelic collection,
A divine member exhales from it
from cover to cover,
It attracts with a fierce undeniable
attraction,
I am drawn by its breath as if I were
no more than helpless vapor, all
falls aside but myself and it,
Books, art, religion, time the invisible
and the solid earth, and what was
expected of Heaven or feared of
Hell are now consumed,
As I see my soul rejected on the pages
of history,
As I see thro' a mist, something with
inexpressible completeness, sanity,
beauty,
See the pages and pages filled with
stamps; the collection I see.
If anything is sacred, philately is
sacred,
And the glory of man is a painstaking
collection,
And in man or woman, a clean, hand-
some, well founded collection is
more to be desired than the most
beautiful face.

Reprints—Just as good when you
buy, but not worth a ding when you
try to sell.

Washington Notes C. M.

THE interesting government publications of the past month are a collection of the memorial addresses (illustrated with portraits) delivered at the funerals of Presidents Garfield, McKinley and Lincoln, by Jame G. Blaine, John Hay, and George Bancroft; a biographical Congressional Directory from 1774-1903 containing the brief histories of every member and senator for that period; the nineteenth report of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the the Department of Agriculture; the report of the Smithsonian Institution for 1902; all of which are procured through application to a member of Congress.

A monster eighteen foot giraffe now being mounted for exhibition at the Smithsonian for exhtbition at the St. Louis Exposition is to be stuffed with macerated money. This creature when completed will contain what was once Federal money to the amount of nearly \$100,000.

The souvenir card collector is making much trouble for the postal clerk, and orders are being issued quite frequently by the department which receive their starts in complaints. On December 4, an order was issued requiring the cards for a long list of cities to be made up in separate packages, so that it might be certain that the "backstamp" would appear on the front. Another order requires that cards which do not fulfill the requirements of the law respecting private cards be admittdd to the mail as first class matter if written and third class matter if printed. The former practice was to declare these incomplete cards unmailable or collect double

postage even if they were wholly printed, and in the case of foreign cards this caused much expense to the American addressee.

The report of the First Assistant Postmaster General calls attention to the fact that counterfeit postmarking stamps have been used on advertising matter circulating outside the mails, and that such use has resulted in many complaints to the department, also that fourth-class postmasters are authorized to use the postmarking stamp as a "seal" in executing pension vouchers. He recommends that a penalty be provided for the counterfeiting of the postmarking stamp, or for the use of the postmarking stamp for any improper or unlawful purpose.

The total number of rural free delivery routes is now 19,668 with petitions pending for the establishment of about 7,000 more. The increase in routes during the past year is somewhat counterbalanced by the discontinuance of 4435 fourth class post-offices.

In the average amount expended for postage per capita New York with \$2.98 stands at one end of the line and South Carolina with 45 cents at the other.

The exact dates of issue of the series of 1902 stamps is as follows:

1 cent. Feb. 3, 1903; 2 cent, Jan. 17, 1903; 2 cent revised, Nov. 12, 1903; 3 cent, Feb. 11, 1903; 4 cent, Feb. 10, 1903; 5 cent, Jan. 20, 1903; 6 cent, Feb. 20, 1903; 8 cent, Dec. 6, 1902; 10 cent, Feb. 5, 1903; Special Delivery, Dec. 9, 1902; 13 cent, Nov. 18, 1902; 15 cent, May 27, 1903; 50 cent, Mar. 23, 1903; \$1, \$2, and \$5, June 5, 1903.

Ships That Sail by Daylight.

E. R. Steinbrueck

WE call a person who likes and studies the postage stamps of the world "a philatelist," the world over. That name has taken root and "everybody uses it," like Pears soap.

With what justification it is used, not the soap, but the technical term, is not quite clear to me, since I have tried to analyze the compound. So much I know well, that "filo" is Greek and means "I love," which is no Greek to me—never was.

"Tely?"—What is this!

Derived from the Greek "tele" which means "far," turns the whole thing Greek to me again. Think of it—"far." Never mind that. If it is "philately" let it be that way and everyone initiated knows the word's meaning, which is sufficient.

I wanted to say something in connection and the allusion served but as overture. Here it goes.

We call a person who studies the postage stamps of the world "a philatelist," the world over.

My question is now, how is it with the specialist in the stamps of one or two countries. Is he a philatelist or not?

Suppose a man studies as his specialty the Latin language, while he does not devote any time or pains to any other language, dead or living. Is he properly called a linguist? Or to use a Greek expression, a philologist? From "filo" "I love" and "logos" "the word or the language."

Is he not really but a Latin scholar, a student of Latin and maybe by and by a doctor and professor of Latin and still no philologist? Do you see what

I am driving at? Isn't for instance a specialist in the stamps of Greece rather a philohellast? Hellas is the Greek name for Greek. Love we have to use appropriately, another Greek expression. Or call him philohellenist after the people in Hellas, the Hellenos.

Philohellenist! Not to confound with philohelenist from "fileo" and "Helena" daughter of Jupiter and Leda or any other daughter. You will please notice that in the former case "hell" is spelled with "ll," while the daughter carries but half of it and usually is called "the better half."

It occurs to me now, as a philologist has to study many languages, as many as his bushel basket may hold, to merit his title in justice, that a person claiming to be or to become a philatelist true to name has to study postage stamps of as many countries of the entire world as he is able to buy or to borrow, too proud to beg and too honest to steal. A philatelist even may not call a single stamp his own. It is the study of stamps that makes him a philatelist, not the amount of his collection, ever so abundant and boundless. That's what I think about it.

About collectors I have nothing to mention. Collecting is a hobby. Magpies collect. There may be specialistic collectors of postage stamps, of revenues, and of M. & M. stamps. Collectors that grab everything in reach in the stamp line, and collectors that over reach the line. "There are collectors of tobacco tags, of buttons, rings, and even paperrags" but they are not called

PHILATELISTS,
the world over.

The Mexican public revenue is almost exclusively derived from the the sale of adhesive stamps.

Inscriptions On Stamps

By L. G. Dorpat

(Continued.)

JAPANESE—an offshot of the Chinese, is as St. Frances Xavier said without doubt, an invention of the evil one. For pure complexity of cussedness it would be hard to beat. The Japanese derived their first knowledge of letters from China through Korea. native language is totally different in construction and vocabulary and construction from the Chinese tongue. When they came to write their own language in Chinese characters they used the Chinese symbols simply to represent sounds, utterly regardless of the meaning (in Chinese) of the sign they were employing. This proved after a while to be entirely too cumbersome, and they proceeded to cut down the characters by pruning off certain strokes. This pruning process began on the cursive forms of the Chinese characters, and from it was evolved the so-called hirakana syllabary. The Japanese had been employing quite a number of Chinese characters to represent one and the same sound of the Japanese tongue, so that there are several hirakana characters to represent each of the sounds in the syllabary. Perhaps some 300 hirakana characters are known. Each character represents a combination of a consonant plus a vowel; the Japanese have not reached the stage where vowels and consonants are discriminated. The syllables are "a, e, i, o, u," (explanatory or continental pronunciation, but short), ha, he, ho, hu, ka, ke, ki, ko, ku, and so on. In one or two cases the changes are not regular; for instance, h plus u make fu, no hu; t plus i is chi, not ti, etc. The only final consonant in the language is n. By the addition of the sign called nitori (""), sounds t, k, s, and h, are turned into sonants d, g, z, b; and by the addition of the sign called maru,

the h-series are turned into a p-series. The katakana is a simpler, and consequently less used, system than the hirakana. At the present time it is coming more and more into use, and deserves to, as it is very well suited to the needs of a language like the Japanese. Unfortunately the Japanese were not content to use these comparatively single syllabaries, but must needs retain the Chinese characters as well; and the ordinary Japanese writing, called Kana Majire, or mixed writing is a hodgepodge of Chinese ideograms, Katakana, and hirakana. The Chinese are used not for their sounds (in this case) but for their meanings, and the reader is supposed to know the Chinese characters so well that he can translate them into his own language as he reads. For the sake of illiterate persons, the kana are often at the side of the Chinese characters.

Why the Chinese characters could not be entirely omitted is a mystery that I have never been able to solve. In this system, the stems of nouns and verbs are written by the Chinese characters and the grammatical terminations are written in Kana. In this system there is no specific sound (Japanese) that can be assigned to any given Chinese ideogram; the ideogram must be translated when the reader comes to it by the most suitable corresponding Japanese. In modern Japanese a great number of Chinese expressions have been borrowed. In fact they fall back on Chinese expressions for new terms in just the same way as scientific Europe does on Greek and Latin. But to add to the confusion, instead of taking over the regular Chinese pronunciation, the Japanese follow an antique pronunciation in use in China at the time the Koreans first introduced Chinese Literature into Japan. Not content with this complication, the Japanese in certain instances fol-

low two other styles of Chinese pronunciation of the Chinese Han and T'ang dynasties respectively. Buddhism and popular speech prefer the Go-on pronunciation, while science affects the Kaw-on, and commerce the To-on; so that modern Japanese is a mixture of three different styles of Chinese grafted on the old native speech. From this it follows, that sometimes you have to translate into Japanese the Chinese characters you come across in reading a Japanese book, and sometimes you read them as Chinese phrases adopted into Japanese; when you do one and when do the other, naught but a knowledge of the language can tell you; in other words, you must know the language before you begin to read Japanese books, and you must also have a thorough knowledge of the Chinese ideograms and their meaning—so far the letter quoted.

The readers of *The WEST* will understand that it takes time to master the inscriptions on Chinese and Japanese stamps. I hope, though to bring something for the next number of *The WEST*

Button Versus Emblem ***By J. K. Burrow***

(CONTINUED)

THE reason for placing it at 2000 is because of the wide range of collecting now open to the collector; it is no task to accumulate that number in a general collection, and those who have taken up the 20th century collector can come, I think, within the mark; but these of course, are matters for debate and further consideration. 2nd, the beginner in collecting almost 9 times out of 10 leave off somewhere under the 2000 mark for a more convenient season, but as soon as 2000 varieties are secured they have sufficient stimulus to proceed into the Philatelic ranks. My original proposition was the forming, as before stated, of a National Union, with a Mal-

tese Cross Emblem of gold or silver, made as attractive as possible without being gaudy or loud, and suggest Victoria's head for the center with the letters N. P. N. A. on the four points of the cross, the reasons being: 1st. to commemorate the issue of national postage stamps; 2nd, the Anglo-Saxon countries and dependencies, are by far the best part of the stamp issuing countries 3rd, Victoria was held in high esteem by all the civilized world, but while I suggest this, it was entirely secondary to the object in view, the objective point primarily being to sound the depths of the new movement, talked about, and I was not mistaken, when I thought it lacked cohesion and the requisite stability to carry it to a successful issue; there was no united action, at least it was not apparent. On the point at issue it has been suggested that every one please himself and on the other hand, the extreme suggesting to leave it alone; both are unwise; surely an intermediate course can be found, one in which all can participate and be recognized by the same emblem. The possession of it should recommend the wearer to the good will and fellowship of every collector. Every philatelic society should have the right of voicing its sentiments, and of sending a delegate to the national union according to the membership. Thus the best material available in the philatelic world would be brought together for deliberation, for the better understanding of philately, for the suppression of fraud, and the closer watch of speculative issues. This undertaking is certainly a gigantic one, but look at the immense proportion of philately, with no concerted action whatever—everyone doing as he pleases. Each society going its own sweet way. True, a few meetings are held, but what has been accomplished? All that is needed, is united effort with a mighty pull of one and all.

And even if it does not assume the proportion outlined, we can make the effort and probably build so that later it may assume a recognized position.

Opposition is bound to present itself. That is the stimulus requisite to show us our errors and correct them.

A second suggestion I have to offer in opposition to my friend, L. P. Dorpat, of Wayside, it is this: if the matter of finding a suitable motto or center for the emblem, be difficult to suit all, let us go back to the dead languages which can certainly offend no one, and above all, are not subject to decay or changed conditions, and take the Greek "Philos Atelia" for the center.

In conclusion, I shall be glad to hear from any interested along these lines and will treat their views with all courtesy through The WEST and if stamps are inclosed, will be pleased to answer personally.

The Non-Adhesive Stamps Of Our Early Post- masters.

By Henry Herbert Huff

THE UNITED STATES government did not begin issuing postage stamps until 1847. Before that time many different methods were employed in the affixing of postage upon mail matter. Each village, town and city had its own particular stamps and usually the postmasters were responsible for their design. This accounts for the many varieties of early postmaster's stamps. Stamp collectors of the present day have only to rejoice that the postal methods of those days are not continued at the present time, for if such were the case where could we obtain an album large enough to hold our collections.

Much has been written by our philatelic students on the subject, "The Adhesive Stamps Of Our Early Postmasters," but very little regarding the non-

adhesives. Perhaps the reason for this is that Philatelists have hitherto had no particular interest in the latter class.

The non-adhesive stamps are, at present, only a matter of curiosity, but they can rightly be classed as subject-matter for Philatelic research, and no one who undertakes to make a collection of them will fail to find it uninteresting.

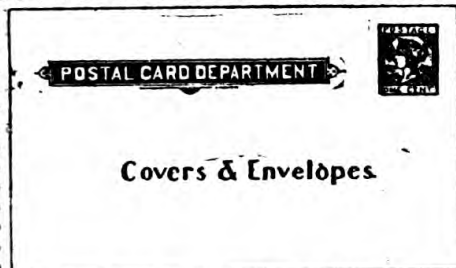
Non-adhesives were the commonest stamps in those days, and since there were very many more of them than of adhesives, they have but little value at the present day. They were used extensively in the western part of the United States, especially at the smaller offices.

The usual method of stamping matter was "Paid 5" or Paid 10" or whatever other amount was required. This was usually written with pen and ink, but in some instances the word 'Paid' was stamped with a hand-stamp, and the amount added with pen and ink. Another method was that of stamping in the upper right-hand corner, the word 'Free,' signifying that the sender had paid the postage to the master at his own station, and that the packet was to be delivered without further costs.

One of the most curious stamps was the one used at Sabula, Iowa. The postmaster placed a blot of brown ink in the corner of each envelope, which was afterward cancelled by drawing several lines over it with a pen.

Many of the postmasters used rubber hand-stamps, similar to those used in the smaller offices at the present day for postmarking letters. In the center, instead of the date, appeared the words, "Paid 5" and beneath them in many instances, the initials of the postmaster.

The stamps that I have mentioned are but a few of the many of the varieties existing; although the government issued stamps in 1847, we find many of the more remote towns using the early postmaster's stamps as late as 1855, doubtlessly because they did not have the facilities such as railroads grant us at the present time,



Observations on Some Original Covers

By R. R. THIELE.

(Continued from September.)

AS it shows no further New Zealand postmark, a tax-mark on the face of the letter was probably put on here also; it consists of a very large figure:

6^D

Six pence being the equivalent of the American 12c rate. The letter now resumed its eastward journey and the next postmark is that of San Francisco, but unfortunately the date is illegible. This being the exchange office the postage due was here marked for the office of destination, as shown by the handstamp:

**COLLECT
12 Cents**

The "Collect" stamp was evidently blank and the figure of value was afterwards added with another stamp in very large figures—all in black ink. Evidently under the postal arrangements then in force with the Australian Colonies returned letter were charged full postage; within the Postal Union they are now returnable free, as a rule. Next the letter arrived at Chicago and was postmarked:

CHICAGO, ILL., RECD.
APR.
21,
1891,
17

All in a single-lined circle. The '17' below is presumably the number of the cancellor. Then it was turned over the German consulate.

So far the journey of the letter had been quite a rapid one; from Jan. 12 to April 21 it had almost girdled the globe. But now came a period of rest, while it was waiting at the Consulate for some one to claim it. It must have become quite dusty in the pigeon holes of the Consulate before it was again resurrected. Nobody had called for it in all these months, and finally someone at the Consulate endorsed it in red ink:

"Not called for at Consulate."

The carrier to whom it was turned over repeated in pencil:

"Not called for.

917."

The latter figure is probably his number. This was late in December, for a large hand stamp in auline ink shows the inscription:

G. D.
DEC. 31, 1891
11 A. M.

There are other letters between G and D. but too blurred to read. I do not know what the full word may be; the handstamp was probably impressed at the Inquiry Office of the Chicago Post Office. The New Year seems to have laid the employees at this office out somewhat; at least the letter did not get another start until January 7, 1892. This is shown by a very large hand with outstretched index finger—impressed with a rubber stamp—which points to the senders address in the upper left corner and bears the inscription:

"Returned to writer."

And the date January 7, 1892.

(To be continued.)

BETTER PAPER FOR STAMPS

NOW that Philately is so well established in its present prosperous circumstances, we can afford to squander a thought on the unguessed region of the future, and to wonder, what it contains for our successors. Whatever be the hand that administers it, there is a law that causes up to provide for the interests of those that come after us, and it is a wise law, for do not our circumstances depend upon the actions of our forefathers, as truly as our descendants will depend upon us?

To a careful discriminating mind, it appears that the Philately of the far future will rest on an insecure foundation in a few respects. Let us imagine ourselves situated at some distant point of old father Time's circuit and thus endeavor to ascertain with some show of reason, what will be the future status of the collecting "hobby" or "instinct," as it is more rightly called.

Here is a hard problem for us to deal with, but he is a coward who turns back from what is hard, and excuses himself with: "after us the deluge." And these words apply more literally than at first would be imagined, for where will this deluge of new issues leave us in one hundred years. But the question with which this article is chiefly interested is that of paper and printing. How long will it be possible for such paper as is now used to hold together, and retain such colors as are now used, retain their brilliancy?

A single glance at the early issues of the world will be sufficient to convince the inquirer of the mutability of colors, and although, of course, the improvement of the same will count for something, still the condition of the stamps of the early forties may be regarded as an approximation of what

our bright colors will be in sixty years. One fact alone, is responsible for this question not getting more consideration than it does. The governments of the countries that issue stamps, prefer not to have them printed in colours of great duration, because it would then be easier to erase the postmarks. But if science would only discover for us some new ink that would retain its power indefinitely, then the same principle whatever it may be, could be applied to the coloring matter of the cancellation.

As regards paper, it makes the philatelist envious to look over the well preserved documents of historical fame, written probably on papyrus, the Egyptian paper, that never will be destroyed. How encouraging? to think that the collector of the future will never know our rarities! In a few hundred years the last Baltimore provisional will probably have faded into dust, while big fortunes will be passing for stamps that have not yet been printed! A philatelist is inclined to think that it would pay the government to print its stamps on papyrus, or parchment perhaps! Certainly it would pay philately. What a stability it would give to the pursuit, how much better for the future it would be!

We can at least expect of modern science to invent a paper that will couple the endurance of papyrus with the cheapness of the rag product as now used. She has recently showed us a paper that will suddenly decay after a short period of apparent integrity; let her now give us a form of paper that will NEVER decay.

A man in Geneva, Switzerland, is sending out circulars advertising facsimiles of rare stamps. His circular says that the facsimiles are practically undistinguishable from the originals and that they have been awarded eight gold medals for their great resemblance to the originals.

Our Illustrations

"Once a collector always a collector."

W. N. SOUTHER—was born in Groton, Mass., in 1858 and has been there most of the time since. Has been interested in stamps for thirty years and in Natural history always.

His first collection of stamps he sold about twenty years ago when stamps were not as valuable as they are now and when he thinks of his New Brunswick shilling, Sidney views, etc., it makes him tired when he looks at the spaces now empty. His catalogue of 1875 says N. B. Shilling \$5.00 Sidney views 75c. Not long after he sold that collection he began another and now has a collection of between 6000 and 7000 varieties but his old collection was the most valuable.

In Natural history he is interested in birds which he collects and mounts himself, although of late he has given more attention to shells and butterflies of which he has very good collections.

Three years ago he was obliged to build a house especially for his collections and to have a place to prepare them for himself and for others.

He has made a beautiful collection of butterflies mounted on Denton's tablets and also has a lot on pins. All these things take a lot of money but he never felt he wanted to stop.

MR. CHAMPION—of Paris, France, was born in 1873. He occupies himself with stamps since the age of 6 years. He was formerly assistant of Mr. A. Forbin whose business he took in Sept. 15, 1903, under the firm of Theodore Champion & Co. He pub-

lishes the principal French catalogue with assistance of Messrs Yvest & Cellier of Amiens. He carries on an extensive business, and handles especially novelties, he also does much wholesale business with dealers. He employs many clerks and possesses one of the first firms of the place. See his ad on another page.

C. E. JOHNSON—of Montgomery, Mo., sends his photo and 3 views of his Indian "stone relics." The photo shows only a very small portion of them. He has been collecting Indian stone relics for 20 years, has sold once or twice, but took up the "fad" again. He is 48 years old and came from Virginia. He says he has been a reader of the WEST over two years and likes it very much.

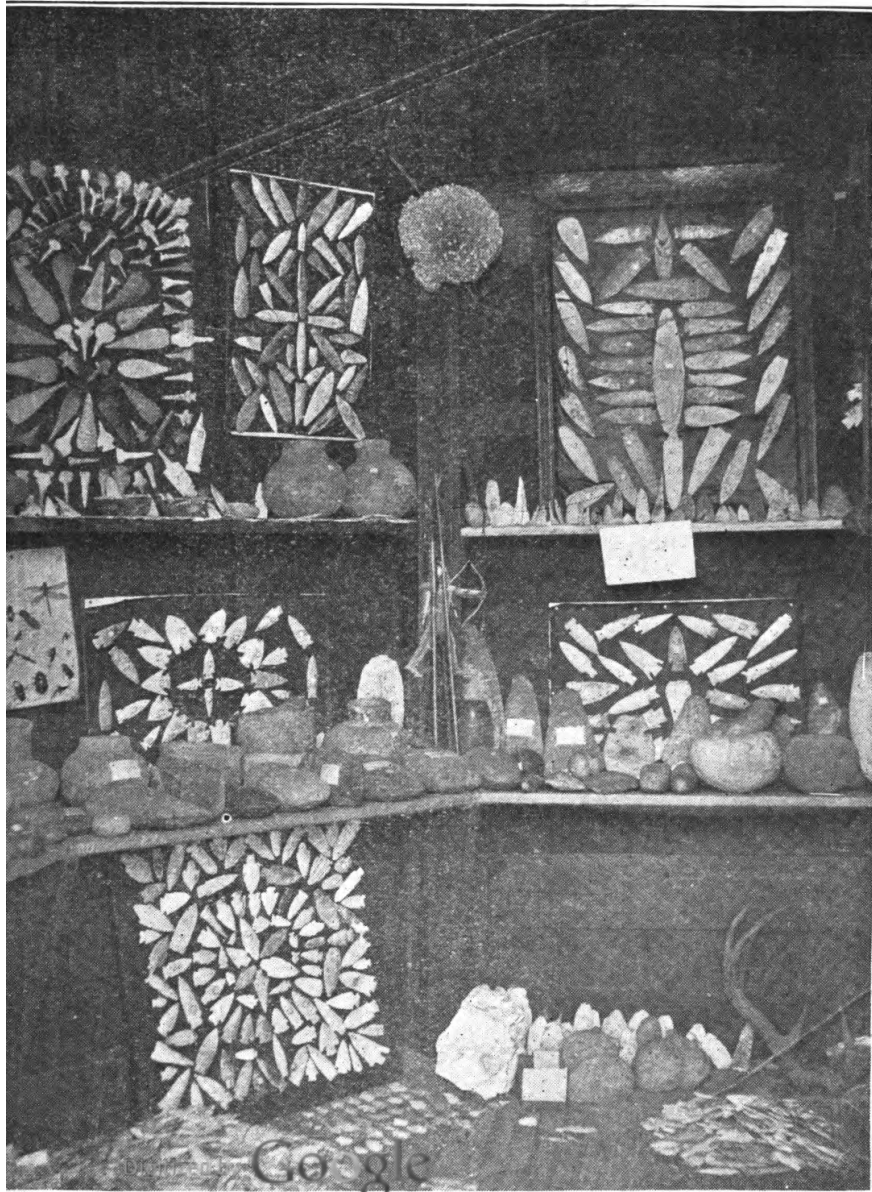
MISS ANNA NORMAN—was born in Sweden 18 years ago and came to this country a number of years ago. Acquired the collecting craze while in the old country and is now collecting U. S. stamps exclusively having disposed of all Foreign; also collects old paper money. She would be pleased to hear from all money and philatelic collectors.

MR. WILLIAM BURTON — was born in Nashville, Ill, 1870. He holds a lucrative position with the Aetna Life Insurance Co., being in charge of the collecting department of that company.

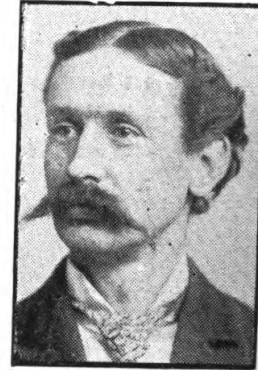
One year ago Mr. Burton bought his first camera and since that time has become one of the most progressive amateur Photographers in the World's



A SCARCE COVER



Miss No. Gothenber



W. N. SOUTHER, Groton, Mass.



W. BURTON, St. Louis, Mo.

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



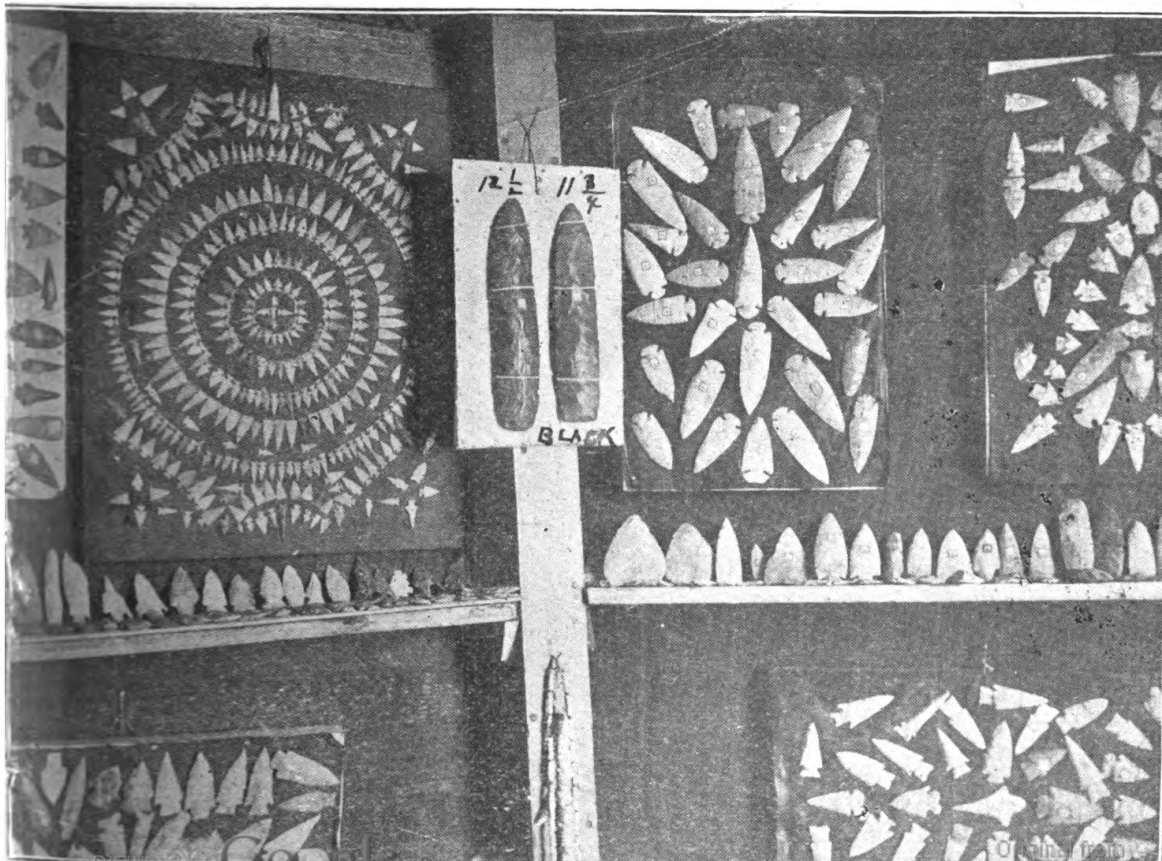
T. Champion, Paris
France



JOHNSTON, Mont-
gomery, Mo.



CORNER OF JOHNSONS' CURIO ROOM



Fair City, he having organized the Missouri Amateur Camera Club, No. 1 N. Broadway of which he is secretary and is fast becoming one of the best Amateur Camera Clubs in the country the membership of which increases with every meeting. They held their 1st prize contest Dec. 21 and was interesting to its members. Would advise all Missouri and particularly St. Louis Amateurs to write him for particulars.



NEBRASKA PHILATELIC SOCIETY. 222

**Nebraska's
Pride.**

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc Manager, C. L. Pond, Omaha, Box 584.
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245 S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262.
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg.
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

RENEWALS

B L Morgan, Fremont, 246 W 6 St.
H Letton, Fairbury.
G Koerhke, Plattsmouth.
G B Mair, Broken Bow.

APPLICATIONS

H McLucus, Fairbury.
G H Blakeslee, Eddyville.

REPORT OF SALES DEPT.

For the month of December, 1903.

28 books received net value \$252.03
25 " " " " 242.71

\$68.24 were sold, certainly a good per cent. Still more are realizing that this department is run on honest business principles and is beneficial in buying or selling stamps. Write us.

H. WENDT, Supt.,
Dunlap, Iowa.

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J.
Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg, Lithrow, New York.
Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Austin, Texas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

NEW MEMBERS

297. S Valentine Saxby, Rockford, Ill.
298. Rev R Stollenwerk, Liebenthal, Ks.

APPLICATIONS

Homer Collins, New Jersey Bldg.,
Duluth, Minn, age 45, physician, ref J
D Park, W P Kelley.

John N Deglmann, Mankato, Minn,
age 31, book keeper, ref L T Brodstone,
W P Kelley

A C Chase, East Providence, R I, age
24, loan clerk, ref United Stamp Co, W
P Kelley.

Send for application blank and join
now and begin the new year right.

Respectfully,

W. P. KELLEY,
Secy-Treasurer.

REPORT OF SALES SUPT.

In hand at last report

	23 books value	\$436.77
Received since	22 " "	273.56
	45	\$710.00

Retired (sales
\$62.80)

15 books value	213.15
In circ'n Dec. 30, 30 books value	\$497.18

CHAS. WARING,
Sales Supt.

When you slip upon a banana peel
you may feel sore, but you get up and
go on anyway—if you have made a
mistake and slipped up on your adver-
tising it is no reason why you shouldn't
try it again—White's Sayings.



By ROY FARRELL GREENE, A S of C C

J. O. Barnes of Hickman, Ky., recently found in the river bottoms near that city what appears to be the tooth of some herbivorous animal now extinct. Some call it a mastodon tooth, but it appears to differ in a great many ways from the kind usually picked up and sent to museums. The tooth is not extremely large, measuring only one and one-half inches across the top and three and one-half inches long. The sides of the tooth are comparatively smooth, the front and back are ridged lengthwise. The tooth has been placed in the collection of curios belonging to the editor of the Hickman Courier.

A press dispatch from Hartford, Conn. bearing date of Nov. 12, 1903, conveyed information of interest to curio collectors, inasmuch as it told of the historic letter written by U. S. Grant to Gen. Joseph R. Hawley accepting the nomination to the Presidency of the United States and ending with the now famous sentence: "Let us have peace". It seems that Gen. Hawley lost this historic letter some years ago and it was not thought likely that it would be ever found. A scavenger in Hartford, so the story goes, found it among a lot of waste paper and it will be so preciously preserved that there will be no danger of its ever getting lost again.

The State Historical department of

Iowa, by its curator Charles Aldrich, has lately secured what is undoubtedly one of the largest stone axes in existence. The interesting and valuable relic is heavier than the much prized stone axe in the Field Columbian Museum at Chicago and larger than the one in the Smithsonian institute. Its weight is such that it would have required the weight of a giant to wield it, and the ax was probably used in Indian ceremonials, rather than as an instrument of warfare. The weight of it is $31\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, while the one in the Field Museum weighs $15\frac{1}{2}$ pounds and the one in the Smithsonian institute weighs 20 pounds. This mighty ax which lately became the property of the State of Iowa was plowed up in Louisa. It is carved out of a species of stone not found in Iowa and is therefore doubly interesting. Mr. Aldrich, the curator of the state historical department, induced the trustees of that institution, after much persuasion, to pay \$40 for the splendid implement and it is certainly a valuable possession. The next largest ax in the Iowa state collection is one weighing $14\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, which was found in Clayton County.

Workmen digging on the site of the old City of Teocalli, in southwestern Texas, unearthed, one day last month, about fifty skeletons which local scientists examined and pronounced to be, in

all likelihood the remains of Montezumas and his followers, who were supposed to have been buried at Tenoshilitan.

An interesting find was chronicled a few days ago near Pittsburg, Kansas. Miners who were sinking a coal shaft found imbedded in the fire clay, below the second vein of coal, at a depth of fifty feet below the surface, a box made in a rude manner of bark, about six inches long and four inches wide. It was imbedded solidly in fire clay, and was fossilized, but the bark could be seen plainly on the outside. When the box was broken open three arrowheads, crudely made of flint were found in it, two of them unfinished and one perfect. The fossilized box was found solidly imbedded in the fire clay, below the coal vein which had not been disturbed, and had apparently been lying there at least since before the carboniferous period. Of course the comparatively close proximity to the surface might lead to the belief that an ancient well or shaft might have been sunk years ago and the box dropped down in it, but the miners say the coal vein had never been disturbed, so it is up to the big archaeologists and the renowned scientists to figure it out.

A magnificent and interesting autograph collection was sold at auction in Berlin, Germany, not long ago. A letter written by Balvin brought 600 marks, a letter of Erasmus of Rotterdam brought 125 marks, a letter of Goethe's brought 25 marks, one of Queen Louise's the same price, and a letter of Napoleon's written two days before the battle of Jena brought 485 marks.

Old books are valuable property, and

curio collector who happens to add some copy of a "first edition" to his collection is certain to gain something that will increase in value as the years go by. At a recent auction sale a set of Scott's Weaverly Novels, as originally published, fetched \$2,500, while a first edition of "Robinson Crusoe" in old calf binding, brought \$1,535. A first edition of Izaak Walton's "Complete Angler," containing some fine old engravings, brought \$2,025. A second impression of Shakespeare's work containing the rare Richard Hawkins title page, went for \$4,250, and a third impression of the same, containing the Droeshout portrait brought \$2,850. First editions of American authors are valuable too, for it was not long ago that a volume of "Pierre Antiond's Date Palm" by Thomas Builey Aldrich, published in 1866, brought \$78 at auction. "The Pioneer," in three parts published in 1843, brought at the same sale \$240. Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass," published in 1855 fetched \$75.

The University of Kansas sent out last summer A. W. Sellards, Graduate student, and M. A. Barber, of the department of botany on a collecting expedition. The work covered only about four weeks time during June and July, and the greater part of it was done in West Canada, a little being done in Minnesota and North Dakota. At Portal, N. Dakota; Moose Jan, Assiniboina; and Colgary, Alberta; collections were made of the flora of the great plains, and work was done in the edge of the great forest region of Canada at Edmond, Alberta. About two weeks were devoted to collecting in the mountain region of British America, Banff, Alberfa, being the headquarters during this period. The Canadian Rockies and Selkirks furnish an admirable field for the botanist,

since their higher altitudes present an arctic flora, and the well watered and often wooded valleys possess a great variety of the plants of lower altitudes. At Ranff good collecting may be found in swamps watered by warm sulphur springs. On the return, side trips were made into the Bad Lands of North Dakota and the lake region of Minnesota. The work was chiefly with flowering plants, and, owing to the large number, and the great variety of the regions visited, a very considerable amount of material was obtained and brought back to the University's collection at Lawrence.

A Natural Curiosity.

By **LLOYD R. ROBINSON**

NO part of New England is more interesting than this section of Connecticut. Probably the most interesting natural curiosity to be found in New England is the Dragon's Cave. It is situated in North Franklin, 1 mile from the noted Bailey's Ravine.

The ascent of the mountain to reach the cave is about one-half mile.

The mouth of the cave is between two ledges of rock, that on the right about 50 feet in height, and the left one about thirty feet.

The space between them is about thirty-five feet, and covered with rocks of various shapes and sizes thrown together in such a manner as to bring to mind those lines more celebrated for wit than piety:

"Nature, having spent all her store,
Heaped up rocks—She could do no more."

The descent from the general surface of those promiscuous rocks to the mouth of the cave is about twelve feet.

The first room, which is in the form of a parallelogram, is fifteen feet in

length, nine feet in breadth, and six in height. The passage from the first to the second room is 9 feet long, three and one-half high and two wide. The second room is not so large, its length is ten feet, and height six feet.

From the second room there is an opening to two others, one on the right, the other on the left. The one on the left is eight feet long, five feet high, and three and one-half wide.

The room on the left is five feet high 10 feet long and four feet wide. From this there is a narrow passage on the left that is twelve feet in length and two feet in width. Here the cave stops, although 40 years ago it continued a considerable distance further. It has caved in.

From one extremity of the cave to the other is about fifty feet.

A kerosene light will not burn in this cave.

Louisiana Souvenir Gold Dollars.

The late coins issued from the United States Mint at Philadelphia to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and known as the Louisiana Purchase Gold Dollar, have been pronounced by numismatists the finest examples of modern coining art. This coinage which will live as a metallic memorial of the Great World's Fair of 1904, was provided for by a specific act of congress, which also limits their issue to 250,000 pieces. The entire coinage will be delivered to the Exposition Company and will represent a part of the Government's general appropriation of \$5,000,000 for the Exposition.



The specially designed coins are of two types: two obverses having the same reverse; 125,000 bear an excellent likeness of Thomas Jefferson—the Government father of the Louisiana Purchase. The other 125,000 present the profile of William McKinley, the Government father of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

A Family of Knockers

TO The lover of bird life, the wood pecker presents an interesting field for study and observation.

Its range is large and scatters from the Lake of the Woods to the Gulf and from Ocean to Ocean.

Everyone knows one or two species of this family. There are from 30 to 40 species in the United States, while but 10 species have been found in Kansas.

Their chief characteristics are stout sharp beak: for boring in dead trees and stumps for food. A long, sharp, barbed tongue for extracting insects and the tail feathers which stiff and pointing assist them in their climbing and working. Their nesting habits are very similar and all species lay in holes dug in trees, posts, etc., from 4 to 6 eggs of a very uniform size and shape—of a pure crystal white. So we see the collector should be very careful to identify his bird when collecting eggs for his collection.

On a clear Spring day, in a shady wood, the bird-lover will find the various members of the wood-pecker family at their best. Their peculiar sharp cries, their half-galloping flight, their bright red head and continual pounding make them easily found and recognized.

In collecting the eggs of these birds, as well as those of hawks, owls and crows, the oologist will find that a pair of climbing irons, a sharp knife or small hatchet and a stout leather belt are almost indispensable. The latter may be discarded, however, for its a high way up to a flickers nest and a long way down to its eggs. Let us look at a few members of the woodpecker family.

Down in the rich bottoms of the Rio Grande in Texas, in the bayous of Mississippi and Louisiana and the

Everglades of Florida, and a few other localities is the home of that prince among birds—the ivory billed woodpecker—a giant among his own people. Few are the eyes that have had a glimpse of their eggs. For he is a shy bird and far from the haunts of men is his delight. In size it is 20 to 22 inches long with a bill of ivory white, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Its body is blue black with a crest of scarlet with lines of black. It is one of the most handsome of American birds. But few collectors have either a stuffed specimen or a set of eggs.

The Red-headed Woodpecker is one of the commonest and noisiest of American birds. He is here and every where. What telegraph pole has not felt the blows of his hammer? He is not partial as to his diet as he eats eggs, grasshoppers, as well as fruit, besides his regular diet of worms and grubs.

Another common species is the flicker which has a different name in every county in the Union. He is also called Yellow Hammer, Wake-up, Golden Winged Woodpecker, High Hole, Yellow Shafted Flicker, etc. A peculiar feature of this bird is that of all the eggs in a nest, but one, are taken, the mother bird will continue to lay on. As high as seventy eggs from one nest have been taken.

An interesting habit of the Californian woodpecker is their foresight in providing for Winter. They dig out small holes in red wood and other trees; fill them with acorns for Winter use. A specimen of bark before me is so thickly studded with acorns and so firmly imbedded that they cannot be removed by the fingers.

The Pileated Woodpecker is next in size to the Ivory-billed.

It is sometimes known as the "Log cock." It is common in South Eastern Missouri and Arkansas. I had

never seen this fine specimen of bird life until I came here. Its loud call is somewhat like the Yellow Billed Cuckoo. Some specimens are nearly twenty inches long. It is clothed in black with a tuft of black and red. It is a Winter resident here. They are strong in beak and the way they go after a dead tree or stump is a caution. Many of the chips knocked out are two or three inches long.

The eggs are five or six in number, of a pure, glossy white, 1.28x1.00 inches in size.

The Hairy and Downy woodpecker are members of this family and are common in Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas in the West.

The Sap-suckers are scarce in Kansas though common in South Missouri and Northern Arkansas. This class of Woodpeckers do not relish a fat worm or juicy bug as its relatives, but prefers fruits and the sap of trees. Hence their name.

To those who are interested in the Woodpecker family will find that early in the morning is the best time to study their habit.

Find a dead tree with freshly made chips on the ground and if Mr. and Mrs. or Mrs. Woodpecker are not at home, a rap or two on the tree trunk will reward you with a very bright head looking out of their door at you, and wanting to know your business. Decatur, Ark.

*
**

Seller of Old Books.

The death of Moses Pollock, an old bookseller of Philadelphia, will be the cause of throwing upon the market an immense collection of Americana, especially Washingtonia. Mr. Pollock had great rareties, hoarded for years in the loft of his store, or in his fire-proof safe. Many of these were so loved by him that they were never

shown to customers or friends. He lived to be 86 years of age, and was never married. Once he sold for \$16, a copy of rare laws of New York, printed by William Bradford; some years later the same copy was sold for \$1,600. It is related that this incident was not to be mentioned in the old man's presence, if one wished to remain on good terms with him.

Among the Washingtonia are eight bound volumes of tracts and pamphlets connected with the foundation of the government. Nearly all belonged to Washington, and nearly all were presentation copies and on each Washington had affixed his well known signature.

What the Philadelphia papers call the "original survey of Mount Vernon drawn by Washington," is among Mr. Pollock's possessions. But we doubt if this map is original, as Geo. Washington was not the first owner of the plantation.

There is also a letter from Washington on the result of the exchange of prisoners taken at Yorktown in which he gives instructions to the American commissioner not to agree to the exchange of Cornwallis. Washington desired that the exchange of officers and men should proceed without Cornwallis being included in it. The commissioner was told that if the British did not agree to that arrangement, to report to him (Washington) for further instructions. By the way, the identical parole signed by Cornwallis at Yorktown, is one of the treasures of the Virginia state library.

Various other manuscripts and books identified with Washington are included in the Pollock collection; also Jefferson's rare "Summary Review," which we are told, was printed at Williamsburg, and was regarded as the precursor of the Declaration of Independence.

MINEROLOGY

[EDITOR'S NOTE.—This department will be devoted exclusively to minerology, mines, etc., and the allied branches. All communications addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont. will be answered as far as possible in this department. We invite questions on this subject and will also be pleased to hear of any rarities or new finds in the mineral line.—Forest Gaines, Ed.]

SOMETIME ago, mention was made of the discovery, in some places, of pure, limpid quartz, containing minute needle crystals of rutile. Since that time, many more specimens have been imported, so that now, good specimens are quite common; and the mineral may soon be seen in nearly all collections. It will be a good deal of a rarity for some time to come, however, and good specimens will be somewhat high.

On some of the moors in England, recently, excellent specimens of dog-tooth calcite have been found. Most of it is clear and limpid, but occasionally some of it is found which is of a beautiful pink or other colour, on account of the amount of iron or other metal discriminated through it. The color is not so deep, however, as to obscure the clear, limpid properties of the mineral. None of the localities have been thoroughly looked up yet, which makes it sure that better and finer material will come to hand than has been seen yet. The moors of England still remain as wild and desolate as they have been for a long time back in the dim past and as they are very swampy and undesirable places of habitation, it will be a long time before they are settled to any extent by human beings. One of the most typical of these moors is called Alston.

The editor has lately had called to his attention, the particular excellence of the specimens furnished by a dealer

Mr. A. N. Fuller, of Lawrence, Kansas, whose ads. have probably been seen by many of our readers, in numerous mineralogical and scientific publications. Mr. Fuller deals only in rare specimens; that is those which have some peculiar interest aside from their purely mineralogical value. The gentleman is constantly on the alert for rarities, and very few of them escape his vigilant attention. Many of his fine specimens decorate our own shelves. And indeed the best single consignment we ever had was received from him. He sends out selections on approval to all responsible parties, which may be kept or returned as desired. Those who are looking for fine specimens or something rare, should give him a trial.

Up-to-date we have identified many doubtful specimens, for correspondents in all parts of the country, and we are pleased to see such an interest taken in the subject. Aside from an attraction fad, the collection of minerals has an added value to any of those who live in a mining or a valuable mineral bearing section, and a good knowledge of minerals is not to be depreciated.

A collection of types (only every different design used for a postage stamp) is as interesting as a complete collection and far more attractive to the non-collector than the dozens or hundreds of volumes of the rich.

The great medium publication, the *Lancet*, says: "A hobby may be constantly accessible and it behooves all men who find themselves 'run-down' to make an attempt toward enjoyment of some intellectual activity different from that constantly demanded by their daily occupation."

Robinson Crusoe's Gun

WHO has not read Robinson Crusoe; the marvelous book which makes young and old hang with interest upon each succeeding chapter, one enters so fully into the fortunes of the hero? All who have read the famous book will be interested in the following account of a relic of the days when Robinson Crusoe and his man, Friday, dwelt upon the Island of Juan Fernandez.

The relic, which is the identical gun of Robinson Crusoe, is in the possession of Randolph Bexens of England. It is the most interesting historical find of recent years and will shortly be presented to the British Museum.

The gun, which Alexander Selkirk, better known as Robinson Crusoe, is supposed to have used on the desert island, "is fitted with an ordinary flint lock, and upon the lock is engraved the figure of an elephant. This would seem to imply that at some time or other, the lock—not necessarily the gun—was the property of the East India Company. Also engraved on the stock are the words, 'A Selkirk, Lago, N. B.' This inscription is roughly and laboriously engraved as with a penknife, in letters an inch high. The following friendly doggerel is cut upon the barrel:

'With three drams powther,
And two ounce hail (or 'shot')
Ram me well and prime me,
To kill I will not fail.'

The manner in which the finding of the gun came about, is rather strange.

Mr. Berens, while looking for antiquities in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, about 20 years ago, saw it and bought it for ten shillings.

Mr. Berens has tried to trace back to the origin of the gun, but has been able to trace to 1875, when it was sold to some one at Clapham for ten shillings, to a man, who failing to see anything of interest in it, offered it after two years

to the custodian of the Ashmolean Museum for twenty shillings. They also saw little of interest, but Mr. Berens, two days later, being on a visit near Oxford, strolled into the Museum, and immediately recognized it as an important find.

This recalls once more, the curious history of Alexander Selkirk. He was left on the Island of Juan Fernandez, by order of the captain of the ship upon which he served as boatswain's mate, for inciting the ship's crew to mutiny, and was taken off again by Captain Werdes Rogers who, when out at sea, had observed the signal on "Lookout" point.

On the 'Lookout hill, Selkirk had erected a mast on which he, every day hoisted a strip of cloth, to serve as a flag, and at night he lit a fire there. The remains of the flagstaff were found seven years ago by a party sent by the Chilean government to explore the island, with the object in view of locating a penal colony there. It had already been used as a sort of exile for political convicts, remains of dungeons and cells are still to be seen there. This use was abandoned, and in 1877 the island was let to an eccentric Swiss.

A quiet little population of sailors and colonists are now settled there. The principal town, a hamlet, San Juan Bantista, has been built on the Cumberland Bay, on the very spot which Selkirk landed.

At the foot of the Lookout there is to be seen a bronze memorial tablet fixed into the rock. It was placed there in 1897 by a Chilean Scientific Society at the head of which was the President of the Republic. An inauguration meeting was held, at which solemn speeches were made, in which the endurance, courage and industry, that characterized Selkirk, were spoken of.

THE MAN WITH A HOBBY.

The man with a hobby is a good one to address your mail order talk to. Philately, numismatics, amateur photography, mineralogy, philocartography, curio collecting, et cetera, are luxuries. Penurious people avoid them. If a man can afford a hobby, he has money and is willing to spend it. If your goods are of ordinary merit your returns from men with hobbies will be larger than from any other class.

Every subscriber to the WEST is a subscriber because he has a hobby. The WEST is his vade mecum. He reads it as thoroughly as the socialist his Tolstoy. This from Mr. J. W. Werner, of Topeka, is in point: "The 50 pages of ads in each WEST are of absorbing interest. Your reading matter can not be beat, but we cranks must have ads. Ads are our meat, reading matter dessert."

Dealers in those articles in which the man with a hobby is particularly interested find advertising in the WEST immensely profitable. Dealers in any mail order commodity, where it is desirable to reach people of means and intelligence, find the WEST equally productive of results.

The man with a hobby has money to spend—you can reach him through the WEST.

YOUR ADVERTISING PROBLEM SOLVED.

Will my ad be read? is the question that worries every mail order man. He resorts to various methods to accomplish this end. If he knew that every reader of the chosen medium would read his ad he would consistently expect profitable returns.

There is one ad medium where this desideratum obtains. That medium is the WEST.

Men with hobbies are ever on the alert for something new for their collections or for bargains. With the enthusiasm peculiar to their kind, they carefully read the ads, it being desirable to overlook nothing. While the literary section of the WEST is of the highest degree of excellence, the advertising pages offer so many and varied opportunities for gratifying their propinquities that no ad, be it ever so diminutive, is overlooked.

When you advertise in the WEST you accomplish two things: You reach people who are able to and will buy whatever attracts them; your ad is seen and read by every subscriber.

Until recently the ad pages of the WEST have been monopolized by dealers who cater only to hobbyists. We are mail order enthusiasts and are opening up this new field to mail order dealers in general. We invite you to enter it while it is still practically unexplored by your competitors.

CIRCULATION—QUANTITY AND QUALITY.

The WEST has a paid circulation of 15,000 per month. Every reader is a paid subscriber, secured through our extensive advertising in the leading magazines of the country. The readers are composed of people of education and culture. Not only the best class of young people of this and foreign countries, but also prominent business and professional men.

Inquiries received from WEST readers are not mere "curiosity satisfiers,"—they're really interested and have the money to buy.

The magazine, being the largest and best of its kind in the world (over 100 pages, illustrated and handsomely bound), each copy is preserved—never destroyed. In this way, in many cases, your ad will do double duty. as a second reading will bring many additional orders from subscribers and from others who are not subscribers who will have an opportunity of reading the old numbers.

We guarantee "The Best and Lots of It;" both to subscribers and advertisers.

DROP IN YOUR HOOK.

Bait your business hook with a tempting bit of advertising and drop into a trial space in the WEST. Our readers are not "fake chasers," or

"suckers," but they'll make a "game strike" if your proposition looks good.

We do not believe there's another magazine in the country giving such value for the money as is the WEST at 10 cents a line. There may be others promising as great or even greater circulation at the same rate, but the VALUE of the circulation is what you pay for, and not so much the amount. And then we've never heard of any other magazine so large as the WEST with such a low rate.

The WEST contains over 100 well printed, illustrated, substantially bound pages. A big lot of valuable reading for 50 cents per year. The circulation is growing at an amazing rate.

The advertising rate NOW is 10 cents per line, but it MAY go up most any time, and you'd better come in now and get "on the ground floor."

It's a good proposition,—we **know** it—but you needn't take our word. Just read the "Proof of the Pudding." It follows:

"PROOF OF THE PUDDING."

B. Morrah, McCarmel, S. C.: "Have been crowded with replies to my ads in the WEST."

E. Stern, 2113 Third Ave., N. Y. City: "Our ad in last number was very satisfactory, and will use space from now on continually. Enclose three pages now."

F. Reid, Denver, Colo.: "I did not expect replies to my first ad, but it has already more than paid for itself. Will take page or more each month."

W. Hofert, Chicago: "The WEST has been responsible for enlarging my bank book. It is without doubt the best paper I ever advertised in."

E. Tomlinson, Alexis, Ill.: "My ad in the WEST brought replies from Maine to the Pacific coast."

R. McGill, Chicago: "My ad brought me replies from all over the U. S. and as far as Europe."

The Standford Co., Omaha, Neb.: "Eighty-four replies to our ad so far."

N. Collins, Detroit, Mich.: "My ads in the WEST have been quite satisfactory. I enclose new copy."

St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co., St. Louis, Mo., who have carried ad in WEST nearly every number for over six years, say the WEST pays best of all for cost.

NOT ONLY IN THE U. S.. BUT—

M. Duhmal, Saint Aver, France: "My ads in WEST gave me many replies."

J. Welsh, Fitzroy, Australia: "My ads in the WEST have given me large bombardment; in fact, too many to take care of."

J. Roberg, Sorel, Canada: "I consider the WEST the best advertising medium, barring none."

H. Lamotte, Paris, France: Just signed third yearly contract. He thinks the WEST a good ad medium.

J. C. Auf Der Heide, Amsterdam, Europe: "My ads in the WEST bring me replies with every mail."

Marks Stamp Co., Toronto, Canada: "We have recommended the WEST to lots of stamp readers who ask for a good paper."

Stanley Gibbons, Inc., New York and London: "We know the WEST has a large circulation by the lot of replies we got for our catalogue."

FROM OUR READERS.

Ira Fisher, Fisher, Ill.: "I must congratulate you on publishing such an interesting paper. I am more than pleased with it. It is just such a paper as I have been looking for. I always look forward to its coming with pleasure. I never want to be without it."

Archaeology in Canada

By *Rev. W. A. Laughlin*

GREAT strides have been made the last few years in this important study and throughout the Dominion of Canada the Department of Education has in every way encouraged research, by publishing important documents, this meritorious use of printer's ink has imparted a needed stimulus to investigate specially of the prehistoric past.

The prehistoric past with its secrets has been united to the historic present. The excavator's spade has unearthed many "historical documents" which tell tales of the characteristics and conditions of the ancient Indian population whose numerous aboriginal settlements were made in sparsely inhabited regions.

The archaeologist will find in Canada his most fruitful field on the sites of the numerous Indian villages, which abound in the Northern part of Seneca county, specially in the townships of Tiny and Tay. This ground was the site of many Huron Indian villages. As a result Huron relics are found in both these townships.

As to investigations made in Tiny, this has certainly historic interest, for there Champlain and the early Jesuit missionaries landed. These pioneers of civilization and christianity have described these villages.

In the Bear Nation territory a tribe belonging to the Huron league, there were no fewer than 49 villages, and 24 bone pits or burying places have been unearthed. These villages were not all occupied at the same time. Thirty nine bear evidence of contact with the Europeans who visited their country.

The most interesting site is the ruins of the second fortified Jesuit Mission of St. Marie, on Christian Island surrounded by the crumbling ruins of an

extensive Indian village. In the fall of 1649-50 the population is supposed to have been between 6000 to 8000, but it was decimated by famine and disease.

Some arguments have been advanced as to the probable spot where the early missionaries Brebeuf and Lallement met their tragic deaths. Evidence fixes upon the site of St. Louis. This historic spot is on the farm of John McDermitt, Lot 15, Concession 4, where extensive ash beds have been found mixed with relics. The identity of the village of the St. Louis has been determined partly by its size, partly by the descriptions of the old writers.

The farm of Chas. E. Newton, Lot 11, Concession 6, was the supposed site of St. Ignace. The weird scenes behind its walls have been powerfully described by Parkman. It has been locally called "The Jesuit's Field," and around it hover the usual traditions of buried treasure.

Space forbids to tell of less notable sites, and of the frequent discoveries of Indian remains in the twin townships of Tiny and Tay, but this we say to antiquarians, whether Yankee or Canuck, visit these grounds at your first opportunity, and remember this:

"THERE WAS A TIME"—and that is all we know!

No record lives of their ensanguin'd deeds;

The past seems palsied with some giant blow,

And grows the more obscure on what it feeds.

A rotted fragment of a human leaf;
A few stray skulls, a heap of human bones!

These are the records—the traditions brief—

'Twere easier far to read the speech-

less stones.
 The fierce Ojibwas, with tornado force,
 Striking white terror to the hearts of
 the brave!
 The mighty Hurons rolling on their
 course,
 Compact and steady, as the ocean
 wave!
 The fiery Iroquois' a warrior host!
 Who are they? Whence? And why?
 no human tongue can tell.

A One Penny Note.

Ponderous Bank of England Once
 Circulated Legal Tender That Small.

WHEN the Bank of England commenced business in 1694, with a staff of fifty-four clerks, all of whom worked in a single room and the directors with them, no one imagined that it would develop into the greatest national institution it is today. And its career, extending over two centuries, has brought it in touch with a wealth of romance, relics of which which may be found in that department of the bank with which the public is least familiar—namely, its museum.

How many people know that the bank once issued a note for a penny—although it should be explained that this was entirely due to an error. But the penny note went into circulation all the same, and only by offering a reward of £5 was the bank able to get it again before it passed into the hands of the curio collectors. This note is still preserved in one of the albums, and in another are some of the curious notes which saved the bank in 1745. In that year a great run on the funds took place—so great in fact that it was thought that the bank would be unable to meet it, but the directors in the nick of time sent a number of their clerks into the crowd to present notes which were paid in sixpences, thus giving

the officials time to prepare for the demand for specie.

Another curiosity is a note for \$1,000,000, which is the only one of that value ever printed, while there is also a note which was in circulation for nearly 150 years before it was presented.

Specimens of all the forged notes which have been uttered from time to time by the unscrupulous are kept, and their value aggregates several million pounds, while notes brought from the wreck of the *Eurydice* and one taken from the stomach of an enormous codfish captured off the coast of Greenland are among the bank's most valued treasures.

There are hundreds of specimens of coins which have been returned to the bank from all parts of the world, or found in the testing machine. This machine, by the way, tests 35,000 sovereigns a day, and automatically rejects any which have become light.

The museum library contains all the old ledgers which have been used by the bank since it was first opened, and they number 70,000, while another set of the staff who has ever served at the bank. There are also 20,000 volumes of all kinds for the use of the staff, some are so rare that the same number of sovereigns would not purchase the collection.

The bank has its own churchyard adjoining, and here many of the officials have in former times been buried. In one corner is the grave of a clerk who stood eight feet two inches in his socks:—London Tit-Bits.

M. P. V. Bounef, said to be a Bulgarian journalist, has arrived in Paris on a journey round the world on foot with his wife. They expect to do it in fifteen years and pay expenses by the sale of post cards bearing their portraits.

A Chat About Roman Coins.

THE whole subject of Roman coinage and its many varieties is very interesting, and collectors young and old are glad to study the curious dies found upon the monies of ancient Rome. Volumes have been compiled dealing with the different mintages of Rome and her provinces. The great charm of collecting coins of the Imperial series lies in the different reigns obtainable, and in the great variety of the types and emblems found on the coins of the majority of those reigns.

Although the Imperial series covers a period of a little more than half the time which has elapsed since the Norman conquest, the rulers and governors it includes are numbered by hundreds, for nearly all those who reigned issued coins, and in several cases where the emperor only survived their election a few days, coins were struck in their honor by their successors. Naturally coins issued during such short periods, were limited in number, and as few passed into circulation, many are now rare. This is not always the case, however, for

hoards have oftentimes been found, even of reigns which might justly be classed as rare.

How to arrange a cabinet of Imperial coins sometimes a difficulty, and young collectors must study their Roman history in order to learn the chronological arrangement they should follow, unless they are fortunate enough to possess a really good work on Roman coins. Most of the text books are of little value and do not help much; and although advanced collectors find good books necessary, there are many who possess scarcely enough Roman coins to warrant such an outlay. The simplest and most effective way to group Roman Consular coins is to classify them in alphabetical order, according to their families. This interesting series may be prefixed by a representative group of the earlier silver coins of Rome of the Republican era, which of course was before the different family coins were issued. Fig. 1 represents the reverses of two denari of the Æmilian family. The imperial series can be more readily traced and their approximate date ascertained from the inscriptions and portraits upon them.

Fig. 2 represents a silver denarius of Julius Cæsar, which may be regarded as a connecting link between the two series. This series should be arranged in chronological order, and the coins struck by the different Cæsars grouped under the reigns of the wearers of the Imperial purple in whose time they were issued. The wives and daughters of Emperors were given prominence



FIG. 1

and frequently had coins struck in their honour. Many of the coins of the Empresses are among the rarer specimens, although the rule is by no means general.

The silver denarii form the most interesting group (with the exception of the gold, which are of course costly) and trays filled with anything like well-preserved coins are pleasing mementos of that great and powerful nation who once ruled the world. It is disappointing to find the breaks—sometimes extending over a long period—when debased coins took the place of pure silver; but so avaricious were some of the Emperors and tyrants in whom the right of coining the precious metals was vested, that debased coins were too often struck. Some of the denarii were not even made of adulterated silver, but were merely washed with silver or tin; in fact they were copper dipped in a bath of rarer metal.

The laws of Roman succession are puzzling to those who are accustomed to regard the handing down of the crown from father to son according to modern ideas of legitimate heritage. The law of adoption was strictly observed by the Romans, and when any one had been adopted as a son by the Roman Emperor he became at once incorporated in very deed as a lawful member of the family and his succession was in no way disputed. When Julius Cæsar, the Dictator, adopted Octavius, afterwards Augustus, he became henceforth C. Julius Cæsar Octavianus, and afterwards ruled the world as the Imperial Augustus. An example of a sesterius of Augustus is given in Fig. 3. Coins were frequently struck in honour of the public adoption of the heir and probable successor to the throne, and the gold and silver coins of Hadrian,

commemorating his adoption by Trajan, may be instanced as a well known illustration of this class of coin.

The public entry of the Souverign into the Capitol shortly after his proclamation or Coronation is a feature still kept up in modern times. The State visit of King Edward VII to the chief city in the Empire is still fresh in the minds of many who witnessed the event. It would appear to be a survival of a custom always observed in Rome and perpetuated by the issue of coins (generally large brass) on which the Emperor is shown on horseback and the fact is announced by the legend ADVENTUS. Scores of coins (covering as many reigns) bearing such legends can be found in any cabinet of Roman coins. Nero, the obverse of one of whose coins is given in Fig. 4, seems to head the list and Jovianus to close it. The Emperor is generally represented riding with his right hand uplifted and sometimes preceded by a Victory and at other times by several soldiers bearing standards. Sometimes these coins were struck at intervals during long reigns, to mark special victories and conquests, after which the Emperor would enter his Capitol in State, making one more triumphal entry. Hadrian was essentially a traveler, and his long journeys through his many dominions were often followed by a triumphal return to Rome and afterwards by issues of bronze coins or medallions in commemoration. Indeed, so many are the Adventus coins of Hadrian that some collectors have specialised upon them and collected a series arranged according to the cities and countries mentioned in the inscriptions. This traveller-Emperor visited many places, including Africa, Britain, Spain, Gaul, Judea, Asia, etc. The personified Nile was frequently used as an emblem upon his coins, his

African visits having impressed him greatly. Upon one of his gold coins the Emperor, clothed in a toga, is seen holding his right hand elevated towards a female figure who is distinguished as personifying the Roman province of ———? by the elephant's trunk on her head.

Many of Hadrian's coins proclaim in an unmistakable manner the stern fulfilments of the prophecies of our Lord in reference to the downfall of Jerusalem and the oppression of the Jews. In reference to this sacred subject the coins of Hadrian bearing the inscription COL. AELIA. CAPITOLINA. are of peculiar interest. One represents a priest of Jupiter supported by Pallas and the Diety of the city of Aelia Capitolina, which Hadrian had built on the spot from which he had banished the Jews on pain of death, and on which the Holy Temple once stood. The name of Jerusalem was obliterated and was supplanted by the Roman colonial city called after the family name of Hadrian. Antoninus Pius still further insulted the Jews by issuing a coin on which there was a hog (an abomination to the Jews); indeed, the once favoured people of Jehovah were oppressed and driven out of the land.

Through the Roman Empire is no more, Roman coins are still treasured as mementoes of a people vanished and of a military system which, although it once dominated the world, has long disappeared.

A French philatelist recently discovered some secret marks on the stamps of Natal. Guiseppe Masini, who engraved these stamps, concealed one letter of his name on each of the stamps, beginning with the lowest value. So on the 1 grana stamp the letter "G" may be seen below the figure of value and so until the letters form the name G. Masini.

New Picture Postcards.

During the summer months the view card, not unnaturally, has held almost undisputed sway among pictorial postcards, and has been mailed in such hitherto unheard of numbers that the postoffices at the principal holiday resorts have only with the greatest difficulty been able to cope with the heavy extra work thrown on their shoulders. With the approach of winter, however, the collectors' fancy turns once again to cards of various other kinds; and the publisher, with his usual foresight, stands ready to spread an attractive assortment before the buyer's eyes. See the many ads in this number and send for samples.

This Should Interest You!

As announced in the WEST a few weeks ago, Omaha, Nebraska, is distinguished from all other cities by being the home of the only school in the world teaching the mounting of animals, birds and all natural specimens. Almost every person at some time or other is fortunate enough to secure specimens of beautiful birds or animals that if mounted would make most attractive decorations to the home or den, it is not to be wondered that the school has received such unprecedented patronage from among the best people. The institution is known as the Northwestern School of Taxidermy, and a letter addressed to them would doubtless bring detailed information of the school. Their ad appears on another page of the WEST.

At a sale held in New York of historical letters written during the civil war, a letter written by President Lincoln to General Grant on April 30, 1864, brought \$1,054.

Olivella Biblicata **By Florence E. Fuller**

ONE of the most valued treasures among my collection of curios, is a portierre made of strings of Olivellas, interspersed with colored Indian beads. The strings being finished with Turitellas from Ceylon. One cannot fail to admire the creamy white and highly polished purply sheen of this dainty shell, and while I admire the portierre as much for the beauty of its parts, every one of the thousands of shells used in its construction, recalls fond memories of shell hunting, among the rock pools and along the sandy beaches of our Californian coasts.

To the collector of Indian relics the shell is not unfamiliar, the aborigines using it for wampum and for ornamental purposes, and even today, among more "modern" Indian relics, the olive shell plays its part!

Olivella Biblicata is a univalve or Gasterpod shell. The animals of this class usually possess two sensory organs, called Tentacles, fleshy-like horns projecting from the head with two eyes near their bases; but though active little animals, they are bereft of both tentacles and eyes. Burrowing in search of food it can be found in considerable numbers just below the surface of the sand. It takes its name from the shell resembling the olive in shape and from its beautiful coloring, the specific name being taken from the two small folds beneath the bulge of the enamel, on the aperture. The spire of the shell, though short is distinctly marked by a spiral groove between the whorls.

A rock pool is a veritable garden of the sea; in such a pool at Moore's Beach, near Santa Cruz, I gathered my first Olivella. It lay temptingly in about eighteen inches of water.

Around the sides of that little pool were citrons, polyps, sea anemones and barnacles, here a star fish, there a jelly fish, amid the glistening sea weed, crabs and crabs hurrying away to shelter!

With arms bared, I dived midst all this life for my treasure. It proved to be a specimen of Olivella Boetica, a smaller specimen than the Biblicata, easily distinguished by its longer spire and highly polished bluish white color and dainty yellowish stripes. That solitary Boetica gave the secret away, for just underneath the sandy covering of that solitary rock pool, was a fine bed of olivellas.

To remove the animal from the shell, boiling it, destroys the polish, so we bury them for a time. By filing the extreme tip of the spire, they can then be strung just like beads and used for decorative purposes. The shell varies from half an inch to an inch in length and interspersed with large colored beads, they can be utilized in many very effective ways, "a thing of beauty and a joy forever."

Disillusioned.

F. E. Halbert

We have a real old tin lantern in our curio collection, and we thought it quite a relic of revolutionary days; when, on moving into this up to date? section, we found nearly exact duplicates of our valuable relic on sale at the local hardware store.

The tallow candle does not occupy such a prominent place in the collection now, in fact, it is out of sight just at present. The joke seems to be on the other side of the fence, however, for the average New Englander thinks that he is up to date. I have often thought that if the real truth was known about all of our (and other people's) valued relics, that the fairy tales attached to them would have a stroke of total paralysis. What a job there would be for the junk and garbage men.

Holiday Souvenir Cards

A MERRY, and Happy New Year to our Collecting club!

Last month we had a brief article about various new cards in the mail and otherwise, but being so near the New Year, every collector is on the look out for something new in the line of holiday cards. Publishers vie with one another in producing novelties in these post cards combining the artistic with the realistic, soft in tone and decidedly effective; printed in many colors. They are all charming subjects, beautifully treated.

Even the humorous cards appear among Christmas and New Year sets. The pictures being the very essence of humor, which will be received with laughter everywhere.

Adolph Selige, publisher, in St. Louis, Mo., has fine varieties of Holiday cards as well as Ralph Tuck & Sons, New York. Mr. P. Graybell Denver, Colo., Koch of Peoria, Ill., or the Universal Art Co., whose Advertisement appeared in last month's issue of this paper on the cover page. It would be useless to name all the various publishers of Souvenirs art cards here and abroad and as there are a goodly number a goodly number of adds of such in the copies of each WEST I do not deem it necessary to mention more about such.

The most beautiful of these that came to my notice were the Tuck's cards. Also the Universal Art Co., has an endless assortment; these being reproductions of land-scapes, pet animals, flowers, birds.

The comic designs as well as the artistic are of the finest lithographic work on the finest Bristol board. The Tuck cards are of the finest tints, especially noticable in the landscapes and sun set and sun rise scenes. No

doubt the mail will be flooded with the millions of greetings during the Christmas Season and the various Post Office hands and mail clerks have my heart felt sympathy during the rush.

Quite a space is left for correspondence on each card, in spite of there being a verse of poetry or congratulatory message on each.

The fashion of mailing real picture post cards to relatives and friends as well as to card collects has become so general that almost every body use them instead of the general Christmas cards.

Another novelty in Christmas and New Year Cards is a set produced in London. These cards which are said to be printed in two colors, have the calendar for 1904, printed in vivid red and bordered with sprigs of holly and mistletoe.

One set among the Tuck's cards appropriate for congratulatory purposes, is the Green Sea Edition, No. 1,102. The subjects in this set are: "On the Clyde," "Entering the Harbor," "St. Andrew's," "The Drongd," "Hillswick," "The Bow Fiddler Rock," "Cullen," "The Giant's Leg," "Bres-say," "Griniecoe," "Castlewick."

All are charming subjects, beautifully treated.

Wishing our collecting fraternity a merry Christmas and happy New Year again and again and a goodly number of cards. M. Keller

Small gold pieces, classed as charms octagonal and round and of the size of the gold quarters and half dollars that were issued from the private mints of California from the early '50's to the late '70's, are being made, sold and advertised at prices almost approaching those commanded by the coins and in some instances have been represented as genuine coins. They are but charms; having no numismatic value and should be represented as such. Their stamp bears no indication of a money value (the same being prohibited) and though of recent making, some bear dates of the '50's. One of this type of charm can be recognized by the word EUREKA which appears on it.—McKeel's Collector.

**THE PHILATELIC FISCAL SOCIETY.
OF NEW YORK CITY.**

Formerly the American Fiscal Philatelic Society.

Organized for the benefit of, and in the interests of Collectors of the Fiscal Stamps of All Nations.

Meetings held regularly on the first Monday in each month at 314 West 70th Street, New York City.

Officers for 1904.

President—A. E. Lawrence, 221 South Street, New York City.

Vice-Presidents—E. A. Wood and W. W. Norton.

Secretary—Raymond Wilcox, 226 N. Y. Produce Exchange Building, N. Y. City.

Treasurer—J. H. Petersen, 70 East 121st Street, New York City.

Exchange Superintendent—F. J. Schoof, 74 Bleeker Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Auction Manager—A. Herbst, 106 East 111th Street, New York City.

Librarian—W. J. Salva, 733 Tremont Avenue, New York City.

Trustees—Dr. L. M. Homburger; T. O. Young, Chairman, New Haven, N. Y.; A. B. Kay, A. M. Trujillo, E. A. Wood, J. C. Miller.

Official Journal—The Philatelic West, Superior, Nebraska.

For further information and application blanks address the Secretary.

PAY YOUR DUES FOR 1904—\$1.00.

TRY THE EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT, and KEEP HERBST

(our Auction Manager) BUSY.

Rules of the Exchange Department of the Philatelic Fiscal Society.

January 1st, 1904.

1. Members wishing to participate in this department should notify the Superintendent, and will be admitted upon signing the rules.

2. Books of Fiscal Stamps only, for circulation, to be sent to the Superintendent, who will put them on a circuit. The stamps should be securely mounted in books and priced in ink at the owner's lowest net price.

3. The Superintendent may decline books which are bulky or contain stamps of no interest to the members. Books

containing unnecessary and misleading remarks regarding the stamps are also excluded.

4. Members taking from books must mark their membership number in the space, and make a corresponding entry on the accompanying sheet. Members must also send statement and remit at once to the superintendent.

5. Members must be careful when they receive books, to check whether any books are missing or whether any vacant spaces are unnumbered, advising the Superintendent of any such discrepancy. The preceding member will be debited for any stamps missing.

6. No member is allowed to write any remarks in other members' books.

7. The books must be registered and sent to the next name on the list, on the day following receipt (Sundays and Holidays excepted). Members failing to register books will be held responsible for the full amount of any loss in transit.

8. An Insurance Fund shall be maintained by the Superintendent, who shall collect a premium of 5 per cent. of the sales from all books.

9. The society shall be responsible for any stamps lost or injured, but every care must be taken to insure their safety. Should any loss be incurred, the Trustees of the Philatelic Fiscal Society shall have the power to deal with the matter.

10. Notice of absence from home or change of address must be sent to the Superintendent.

11. The Superintendent shall furnish a full report of the Exchange Department at each Regular Meeting of the Society.

12. Members declare, by their signature, their acceptance of these rules and promise to observe them.

Signed..... Membership No.....

Date.....190....

A man's experience may not have proven advertising to be a good substitute for the United States Mint, but even so, don't be prejudiced. Millions have been made through both. There is just as much money there as ever before. What one man has done another can do; but it requires perseverance and progressiveness to succeed at anything worth while. If these two essential qualities are not included in your make up, why censure advertising? It cannot do impossible things.

National Philatelic Association of LETTER CARRIERS

Official organ—The "WEST."

President—Edw. P. Hennessy, St. Louis, Mo.
Vice Pres—H. E. Chatillon, St. Louis, Mo.
Secretary—A. J. Bauer, St. Louis, Mo.
Treasurer—Jno. M. Fenton, Northampton, Mass.
Librarian—Edw. E. Shaw, New Bedford, Mass.
Exchange Supt—L. E. Richardson, Putnam, Conn.
Executive Board—F. B. Eldridge, Chairman,
Attleboro, Mass.

A. C. Bass, Hasbrouck Heights, N. J.
Chas. Eshelman, Elgin, Ills.
H. H. Dudley, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Brother Carriers:

I have the pleasure to submit a very encouraging report for the beginning of the new year, which will perhaps be my last one as all future reports will be made to you by your secretary, A. J. Bauer; however, you may hear from me supplementary and you may rest assured that I am at work advancing the interests of the association and expect each and every member to push forward the work of this organization, which is in its youth and needs nourishment, but which bids fair to compete with any organization in a very short time. It will be our policy when not inconsistent with the best policies of the association to furnish you monthly, through the official organ the reports of all officers, and this month I present to you my acts since the start of the organization, which the executive board have approved; James J. Corcoran, appointed on executive board. James J. Dowling appointed on committee on constitution and laws, vice Corcoran, resigned. Corcoran, of New York, approved organizer state of New York. Recommend members from each state as organizer. Recommend first convention at St. Louis, Mo., September 1, 1904.

The acts of the officers have been approved by the executive board as follows:
Approved: November 11, 1903.

FRANK B. ELDREDGE,
Chairman, Ex. Board.
A. J. BAUER,
A. C. BASS,
CHAS. ESHELMAN,
JAS. J. CORCORAN.

While we have done some things which may look as arbitrary, we feel that when you look at the fact that we have not been fully acquainted with the qualifications of some of our members, we have acted solely for the good of the association by selecting men who we were positive would work for the best interests of our organization; and while

we admit that each and every member is looking towards its success, we were not in close enough touch with them to know their qualifications, and we feel that by the next election that the members will know each other well enough to know their qualifications for the various offices. Your exchange superintendent reports that he has in circuit 30 books valued at \$203.40 net, which in itself is proof enough to show the N. P. A. L. C. have come to stay.

We would request each and every member to secure at least one recruit during the coming year.

Thanking you all for your consideration and efforts and wishing you and our association a happy and prosperous New Year, I am,

fraternally yours,
EDW. P. HENNESSY, Pres.

TWIN CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Twin City Philatelic Society meets second Friday of each month at No. 535 Smithfield st., Pittsburg, Pa.

President—E. L. Porter, 413 Wood street, Pittsburg, Pa.

Vice President—Dr. T. L. Hazzard, 56 Montgomery avenue, Allegheny, Pa.

Secretary—Geo. W. Rode, 255 Fifth avenue, Pittsburg, Pa.

Treasurer—Anton Platz, 314 Fourth Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

Sales Superintendent—J. M. Crom, East Pittsburg, Pa.

Librarian—Max Arnheim, 908 Liberty Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

Counterfeit Detector—H. E. Wilson, Fitzsimmons Bldg., Pittsburg, Pa.

Regular meeting held Dec. 11, 1903.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Hazzard. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Roll call showed nine members to be present.

The committee on a competition stamp exhibit to be held at the February meeting submitted a report recommending that the contest be limited to the adhesive postage stamps of any one country (each exhibitor to select the country he prefers.) The points to be:—40 per cent for completeness; 40 per cent for condition; and 20 for Rarity.

A silver medal to be awarded if three or less collections are entered, and also a bronze medal, provided five or more collections are entered.

The informal auction sale resulted in the sale of seventeen lots. The financial report showed a balance on hand of \$104.27. Adjourned.

GBO. W. RODE, Secy.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Welgel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1802 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Department of Mineralogy — Forrest Gaines Glendive, Mont.

Department of Conchology (Marine, Atlantic Division)—J. Lewis Wheeler, 30 Lenox Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Conchology (Marine Pacific Division)—Chas. Russell Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Conchology (Terrestrial Division)—Charles Russell Orcutt, 365 12th St., San Diego, Cal.

Department of War Relics—A. H. Bailey, Superintendent, Marietta, Ga.

Department of Entomology—Prof. C. Abbott Davis, 131 Elmwood Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Numismatics—E. L. Bangs, 1401 Clarkson St., Baltimore, Md.

Department of Botany—C. R. Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Archaeology—Arthur B. Coover, Superintendent, Roxabell, O.

Department of Birds and Mammals—

Department of Geology—F. A. Brown, East Peru, Iowa.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents; annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month. The secretary will furnish application blanks.

All honest collectors, whatever be their chosen branch of collecting, except stamps, are invited to join. We do not solicit stamp collectors as members as there are so many good philatelic societies now in existence, but collectors of stamps who collect along other lines also are invited to become members.

Free Identification Bureau for naming and classifying shells, minerals, fossils, coins, etc., for members only, in charge of a competent superintendent, will examine and name doubtful specimens submitted to them by members. A list of superintendents is given above, with whom members can communicate direct.

Many other benefits accrue to collectors through membership. Address the Secretary for an application blank and fuller details or write to the President or any of the following members of the Recruit Bureau for blanks and information: Howard E. Bishop, Sayre, Penn.; F. G. Hillman, New Bedford, Mass.; Basil G. Hamilton, Moose Jaw Association, Ontario, Canada; A. W. Conner, 640 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.; Oswald A. Bauer, Piermont, N. Y.; W. G. McLain, Edison, Ohio; W. C. Alken, Angwin, Cal.; Archibald Crozier, 810 W. 5th St., Wilmington, Del.

NEW MEMBERS

520. B S Dennis, Letcehr, Cal.

521. F W Pollet, 204 Patterson St., Paterson, N. J.

522. J H Woods, 10 Brattle St, Cambridge, Mass.

523. Mrs S M Krag, Letcher, Cal.

524. Dr J M Henderson, 31½ N High St, Columbus, O.

APPLICATIONS

525. Herman Zuber, Antwerp, O.

526. Frank L Groves, Delaware, O.

527. G N Remington, St Anthony Falls Station, Minneapolis, Minn.

528. Geo B Mair, Broken Bow, Neb.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

102. F May Tuttle from Osage, Ia to 908 So St, Waterloo, Ia.

FELLOW MEMBERS:

I must again remind all members as to their annual dues but very few have renewed their dues so far, this is a matter of as much importance as if the sum was much larger than it is, do not let this matter of dues pass your notice. I will publish all members numbers in February number of WEST as delinquents, who have not sent me their dues before I make my next report. None of you wish to have your numbers appear in the delinquent list I know, where the dues are but 50c per annum. If the society does not furnish you enough benefits let us know it, so that we may discontinue sending you the official organ.

The A. S. C. C. is in a properous condition at present and I desire to maintain this state of affairs with your assistance and support viz.:—The prompt remittance of your dues. Remember the dues are 50c per year. Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year, I am

Fraternally,

WM. WARNER, JR.,

Secy-Treas.

The King of Denmark had a very valuable collection of bird's eggs which included specimens of nearly every bird's egg in existence, and took years to get together.

THE RED MAN'S RAZOR.

— —
George J. Remsburg.

There are many queer devices and preparations for removing the hirsute growth from the human face now-a-days. There has lately been patented a sort of composition stone which is rubbed over the face sandpaper fashion, and which is said to grind the hairs as "sleek as a whistle." How often we see in the advertising columns of the newspapers about some harmless (?) chemical preparation, an application of which causes the hairs of the face to wilt and fade away like autumn leaves, or blades of grass after a killing frost. We are all familiar with the so-called safety razor which resembles a miniature lawn mower; but the most curious of all razors is the Indian's razor, such as the writer recently examined in the collections of the Kansas State Historical society.

The little instrument is nothing more than a simple coil of brass wire. To one unacquainted with the Indian toilet it would seem suggestive of almost anything other than a barber tool. As a rule, the Indian tribe, instead of cultivating the pale face practice of shaving a la lawn mower, resorted to the most strenuous of all tonsorial methods, a la stump-puller. One authority in Chambers' Encyclopedia says their beard was "generally wholly, sometimes only partially rooted out." Thus can we account for the general prevalence of smooth faces, or scanty growth of beards, among the Indians. Extirpating the hairs by the roots has virtually evolved the Indians into a beardless race.

A great many ethnological writers have contended that the Indians naturally had no beards. According to Samuel G. Drake, a recognized authority on the Indians, a Mr. McCausland took the trouble of writing to Brant, the noted Mohawk chieftain, to get the truth of the matter. Brant re-

plied as follows:

"Niagara, 19 April, 1783.—The men of the Six Nations have all beards by nature, as have likewise all other Indian nations of North America which I have seen. Some Indians allow a part of the beard upon the chin and upper lip to grow and a few of the Mohawks shave with razors in the same manner as Europeans, but the generality pluck out the hairs of the beard by the roots as soon as they begin to appear, and as they continue this practice all their lives they appear to have no beard, or, at most, only a few straggling hairs; which they have neglected to pluck out. I am, however, of the opinion that if the Indians were to shave they would never have beards altogether so thick as the Europeans, and there are some to be met with who have actually very little beard.—Joseph Brant (Thayendanege)."

As a rule Poor Lo evidently loathed the lanated face, for Parkman mentions that during his sojourn among the Ogallallas he "made careful use of the razor, an operation that no man will neglect who desires to gain the good opinion of the Indians."

The Indian razor which I started to describe was found with another of its kind and many small glass beads, flint arrowpoints, burned human bones and other objects in a mound near the junction of Carnahan creek and the Blue river, in Pottawatomie county, Kan., by Mr. William J. Griffing, an antiquarian of that locality. While most of the mounds of that region are supposed to have been constructed by the Indians who lived there at the time of the Coronado expedition in 1541, this particular mound must either have been built by the Kaw or Kansas Indians, who had a village in that vicinity about 80 years ago, or else it was an intrusive burial. Prof. Thomas Say, the naturalist of Maj. Long's expedition in 1819-'20, visited the Kaw Indians in their village on the Kansas river and in his account of this tribe he says: "The men

carefully pluck from their chins, axilla of the arms, eyebrows and pubis every hair of beard that presents itself. This is done with a spiral wire, which, when used, is placed with the side upon the part and the ends are pressed towards each other so as to close the spires upon the hairs, which can then be readily drawn out. This instrument we observed to be an article of dress of the chiefs."

The late Judge F. G. Adams, formerly secretary of the Kansas Historical society, once told the writer that he had seen the Kickapoo Indians use these instruments when he was agent for the tribe. "By holding the ends of the spiral coil between the finger and thumb," said Mr. Adams, "the coil against the chin or face, and pressing the threads of the spiral together, the scattering hairs were thus caught and pulled out one by one."

Ellen C. Weber, of Vancouver, N. B., who has made some studies of the Digger Indians, describes in the *American Archaeologist*, volume 2, page 232, a similar process employed by that tribe as follows: "This performance is evidently a tedious one, and as he sits outside solemnly peering into the glass, and with a tiny pair of nippers he twigs out his scanty beard, one hair at a time, his mahalas (squaws) squat about him and twist their faces into sympathetic puckers, or laugh outright when a twinge of misery causes the Digger to exclaim, "Ugh!" "

FOSSILS OF THE SOUTHWEST MISSOURI MINES.

By Ernest J. Palmer.

The limestone of the Burlington and Keokuk groups of the lower carboniferous series attains a thickness of several hundred feet in many places in southwest Missouri. It is extensively quarried at Carthage and elsewhere and furnishes one of the handsomest

building stones in the west.

But it is of its origin and scientific aspect that we wish to consider. To the searching eye of the geologist it reveals a wonderful story of primeval times, when the waters of a vast ocean covered this portion of the globe and strange forms of life existed and perished in countless numbers. Indeed, these entire strata are found to consist of the crushed and broken fragments of crinoids, shells and marine animals that flourished in the Carboniferous seas.

The crinoids or stone lillies were plant-like animals that grew on long-jointed stems rooted to the sea bottom. They were related to the modern starfish. The body was encased in a shell, composed of five or six-sided plates closely joined together in the form of a cup or vase. From the top of this cup a number of jointed arms sprang, with which the crinoid captured its food. Some of the plates were ornamented with crosses, lines and nodes arraigned in patterns. The entire crinoid presented a beautiful and flower-like appearance. There are only a few species left in the modern ocean but in Carboniferous times there were hundreds of forms that grew in countless numbers. The loose joints of the stem, sometimes called Indian beads, are the part most commonly preserved. The writer has found many good specimens of actinocrinus, platacrinus, dorocrinus and numerous other genera.

One of our finest fossils is the sea urchin, *olegoporus mutatus*. Some specimens are as large as a good sized orange. There are five sections of hexagonal plates separated by five narrow sections of irregular plates. This fossil is very rare. A good specimen would perhaps be worth \$25 or more.

Here as in many other places the

brachiopods or double shells are the commonest fossils as well as the best preserved. The writer has nearly a hundred species for the upper and lower carboniferous rocks of this locality. *Productus* and *spirifer* are the commonest genera. Related to them, though very different in form, were the bryozoans. They formed a kind of coral and lived in large colonies. One species, *archimedes*, is a very remarkable fossil. In the center is a column twisted like a screw or auger; from the thin edge of this extended a spirally twisted band of fine net-like coral. On the upper surface are the pores, so small that a magnifying glass is required to see them. Each was once the home of a tiny animal. There were many millions of polyps in one of these colonies. Another genus, *lyropora*, resembled the ancient lyre, and the generic name *fenestella* indicates the fan form of this genus of bryozoans. Amongst gasteropods were several species of *loxonemae*, *capuli*, *pluotomariae*, etc. A beautiful little coiled shell—*euomphalus perspectivus*, is found in the *Kaskaskia* group.

A few trilobites, lamellibranchs pteropods and cephalopods are found, also the teeth and bones of fish. The fish of this period were encased in a complete armor of bony plates. The remains found here are only fragments.

Many species of coral of the horn type, *zaphrentis*, *cyathophyllum*, etc., occur. All of these are remains of marine animals. We find no trace of land until we reach the upper carboniferous rocks. Here a few plant remains are met with, although there are few good specimens found in this locality. Is it not wonderful to contemplate the remains of these creatures that lived and perished in the remote past, ages before man appeared on earth, and that have lain buried in the solid rock since that time until the hand of human energy and the eye of science came to disturb their long rest and interpret the secrets of nature that they teach?

American Souvenir Card Exchange Club

Miss M. Keller, President; R. W. Geauque, 96
Wall St., New York, Secy-Treas.
Dues: Domestic, 50c; Foreign 75c per year in
advance.

Application blanks of Secretary.

NEW MEMBERS

74. Semper Fidelis Club, Academy of Our Lady, 95th & Throop Sts, Chicago, Ill, U S A.

75. Henry Rinn, Jr, 110 St Paul St, Room 30, Baltimore, Md.

76. Jacob J Koch, 309 Spring St, Buffalo, N Y.

77. Florence Fuller, Box 2459, San Francisco, Cal.

78. B Dukoff Gordon 15 Albert Road, Allahabad, India.

Please send remittance for dues by money order. Members get the WEST for one year, five unused souvenir postal cards, membership card and have their name inserted in exchange column. SPECIAL. Persons who are subscribers to the WEST may join for 25c and receive all but the WEST.

R. W. GEAUQUE,
Secy-Treas.

In Arizona near Mesa City there is a large deposit of Bismuth bearing ore. When the Mormon settlers came into Arizona years ago they worked the deposit for a time, thinking that the ore contained large quantities of silver. Phoenix parties have recently secured control of the property and preparations are now being made to work the property on a large scale. A leaching process has been devised so that it is possible to work even the low grade ores at a profit.

No matter how big a dinner you eat today, tomorrow you will be hungry, and no matter what good bargains you advertise in this number the buyers will be looking for new ones in the next.

Kansas Phil. Soc'y

President, W. P. Kelly, Kansas City, Mo.
 Vice-Pres., F. A. Lilly, Sabetha, Ks.
 Secy-Treas., F. J. Ford, 314 N Wabash Ave.,
 Wichita, Kans.
 Sales Supt., F. N. De LaMeter, Wichita, Kansas.
 Auction Mgr., F. R. Hayworth, Wichita, Kans.
 Librarian, E. G. Stephens, Kansas City, Kansas.
 Counterfeit Det., Rev. R. Stollenwerk, Lincoln-
 ville, Kansas.
 Attorney, H. W. Broadbent, Kansas City, Kansas
 Trustees, T. C. Stephens, O. H. Phinney, F. J.
 Bescher, Kansas City, Kansas.
 Official Organ, The WEST.

Fellow Members Kansas Philatelic Society;—We start the year 1904 with very flattering prospects, over 49 members in good standing. Let every member send in his dues when they are due and keep our membership intact, and each one make a special effort to get new members, and make the K P S a hummer if we are far from the leading stamp centers.

Yours respectfully,
 F. J. FORD, Secy.

Stamp Collectors Association.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS.

President—W. H. Barnum, 661 Rose Bldg. Cleve-
 land, Ohio
 Vice President—L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.
 Secretary—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Illinois
 Treasurer—W. A. Zuehlke, Appleton, Wisconsin
 Sales Supt.—H. C. Crowell, Caxton Bldg., Cleve-
 land, Ohio.

- Official Organ—The WEST, Superior, Neb.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

NEW MEMBERS.

- 57 J Edw Solm Jr, 3303 Jefferson Ave,
Cincinnati, O.
- 58 George Cockrell, Deer Lodge,
Mont.
- 59 Alfred E Fritz, Room 33, 154 East
Lake St, Chicago, Ill.
- 60 Albert F Distelhorst, Dorchester,
Wis.
- 61 J M Bartels, 814 Old South Bldg,
Boston, Mass.
- 62 Alfred H Coe, 4130 Drexel Bldg,
Chicago, Ill.
- 63 Everett M Bartlett, Newton, N H.
- 64 Forest Gaines, Glendive, Mont.
- 65 Thomas S Putcher, 41 Fort St,
Victoria, B C Canada.
- 66 RWGeauque, 06 Wall St, New York
City.
- 77 Edward Stern, 2113 Third Ave,
New York City.
- 68 Alvin Good, 17 Contant St, Cleve-
land Ohio.
- 69 Edward Ebbels. Austin, Man,

Canada.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

- 70 Jose Gutierrez, Hernandez, Santo
Fomas, Cuba, Commercial Pro-
prietor, age 49. Ref S E Moisant,
H B DeSelm.
- 71 A McKechine, Box 404, Ottawa,
Ont, Canada. Accountant, age 60.
Ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm.
- 72 P J Martin, West Bay City, Mich,
Stamp Dealer, age 18. Ref S E
Ref S E Moisant, Lumberman's
State Bank.
- 73 R R Bogert, Room 68, Tribune
Bldg, New York, N Y. Age 62.
Ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm.
- 74 Homer Collins, M D, New Jersey
Bldg, Deluth Minn, Physician, age
45. Ref S E Moisant, Chas L Cud-
ding.
- 75 Wendell Wheeler, Latham, Ill,
Ref H A Hoover, S E Moisant.
- 76 Perry Wade Fuller, Wake Forest,
N C, clerk, age 16. Ref S E Mois-
ant, H B DeSelm.
- 77 Minnie McCannahan, 420 Canahan
St, Findlay, Ohio, Stamp Collec-
tor, age 15. Ref S E Moisant, H B
DeSelm.
- 78 W Bartley, Fort Frances, Ont,
Can, Asst Postmaster, age 18. Ref
S E Moisant, H B DeSelm.
- 79 Mrs M S Todd, Hotel Vendome,
New York City. Ref S E Moisant,
H B DeSelm.
- 80 C Wesley Price, Truso, Colchester
county, Nova Scotia, Canada, com-
mercial traveler, age 58. Ref S E
Moisant, Wesley C Payerto.
- 81 Stedman Bent, Overbrook. Pa.
Ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm.

Correction.

- 67 Edward Horn should read Edward
Stern.

We have plenty of application blanks and anyone applying to secretary and stating the number that can be used will be promptly accomodated.

When we started, four months ago, it was intended that this should be an organization of workers; and while most of the members have duly complied, there are a few who still remain dormant and from whom we have neither received an application nor a prospect. If you are one of these few send for some application blanks and do as most of the other members are doing—sending in applications.

Respectfully submitted,
 SHIRLEY E. MOISANT, Secy.



Camera News



Editor, F. J. CLVIE, San Francisco

COMBINATION PHOTOGRAPHS.

By L. F. Walker, Cincinnati, O.

We all of us have to take pictures of the children of our acquaintances and we all know how hard it is to please. We make several negatives, trying to get a large image, and the result is that should more than one prove at all good the fond parent blames for the failures which would have been the best were it not for some fault of our own and finally condescends to let us make a few of those that are not out of focus or moved. I have gotten over this method of working and for the benefit of my amateur friends will tell how I go about the matter.

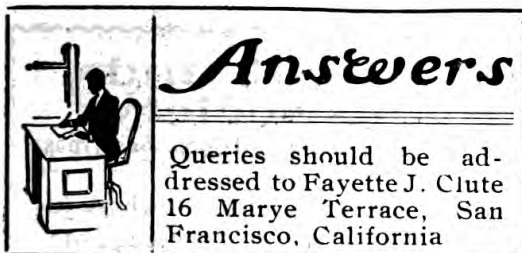
I use a 5x7 camera, but instead of using that size plates I have some kits that will take a plate much smaller. I can then rapidly use of my supply of plates and not feel that I am using more plates than it would cost to take the youngster to a gallery and have a professional have all the trouble. By using the smaller plates I can get much further from the sitter and in that way there is less danger of a want of focus and it seems there is also less danger of movement. I pose the subject before something light for a background and snap away at every pose that seems at all promising. With the small plate and the subject at a distance I can use the lens wide and give very short exposures. I make all exposures with the child standing if possible.

When the negatives are developed I pick out three or four of the best and trim the sides a little with a glass cutter so that the figures will not come too far apart when all are placed side

by side. I then take a large printing frame and, placing in it a sheet of clear glass first, follow with several smaller negatives ranged in a row, fastening them in place on the clear glass with bits of gummed paper at the edges. With the plate of clear glass towards me I hold up to the light and dab on common shoe blacking to make a vignette all around each figure and cover up the joining places that would show where the negatives come together. This done, and one can obtain the most pleasing gradation with this simple vignetting medium, the printing is ready to be proceeded with.

This is a very simple part of the operation. If there is a difference of density in the negatives it means that one must cover the front of the frame with a sheet of tissue paper, putting on a second or third thickness over those that print too rapidly. The printing done, I remove the glass to which the negatives are attached and put another clear sheet of glass in position. On this is placed a piece of opaque paper of the right size and, with straight, clean edges. On this is laid the print so that the black or opaque paper just covers the part of the print required. The back is put in place, and the margins of the print that extend beyond the opaque mask are allowed to become more or less tinted or blackened.

Toned or developed, as the case may be, and so trimmed that a narrow strip of this tinted border remains, the finished print will present a most pleasing appearance and will be sure to please those most interested, if the work has been at all well done, and you will be surprised at the advantage this method of working possesses.



J. W. K.: Dusting-on Process.—Briefly the method is as follows: Make two solutions:

- A. Le Page's fish glue.... 1 oz.
Glucose 4 oz.
Water, to.....10 oz.
- B. Ammonium bichromate 1 oz.
Water10 oz.

For use, mix equal parts of A and B, and filter. Then coat a piece of glass in subdued daylight evenly with the mixture, drain off all superfluous solution, and dry over a stove. When quite dry and hot, warm the negative thoroughly and place the plate and negative in contact in a printing frame. Expose in diffused light for about five minutes, and develop the exposed plate, now quite gummy, by dusting it with fine plumbago. When sufficiently developed coat with collodion, and then immerse in a 5 per cent. bath of sulphuric acid. Wash until free from yellowness, dry and coat with a thin varnish to hold the film on the glass. By this method you can make a negative from a negative at one operation.

A. J. S.: Background Paint.—The following is a good groundwork paint or "base," the color being entirely governed by the amount and kind of color added:

- White lead (ground in oil). 1 lb.
- Drier 2 oz.
- Turpentine10 ozs.

Mix thoroughly and allow to stand for a day to allow the lead to settle.

Pour off the turpentine, which will carry the oil with it, and bring to the consistency of cream by adding fresh turpentine. Then add an ounce of scraped yellow soap and mix until dissolved. Strain through calico or a fine hair sieve, and it is ready for use.

A. A. F.: SHELLAC MOUNTANT: A very good mounting medium, and one which is absolutely non cockling, is a solution of white shellac in alcohol. The alcohol should be ninety-five per cent., and sufficient shellac added to give the mixture a syrupy consistency, that is, almost a saturated solution. It requires about 24 hours for the shellac to dissolve completely. The print, being perfectly dry, is brushed over with this paste, and then applied to the mount. It is then rubbed down thoroughly, and the whole immediately put under heavy pressure between blotters. A letter press is best for this purpose. This whole operation should be performed as rapidly as possible, as the shellac dries very quickly.

R. L. J.: TITLING FILMS: There are several ways of doing this. If you wish the letters to appear white on a dark spot of the picture you may either put the title on the film in reversed letters, using a fine pen and India ink or by lettering the paper with a little opaque, making the title in such a place that it will come right in the print. The first wash water will remove the paint from the paper exposing the white letters which have been protected by the opaque. To make the letters appear black on a white portion of the print is a little more difficult, requiring the use of an etching tool on that part of the film containing a dense deposit of silver. With a little practice this can be done neatly, but a few trials are required.

The American Historical, and Natural History Photo Society

R. H. WOODFORD, Bristol, Conn., Pres; GEORGE E. MOULTHROPE, Bristol, Conn., Sec-Treas.



An association of those interested in the Exchange of

American Historic

and Natural History

Photo Prints and

Lantern Slides.

Yearly dues, including exchange notice and subscription to this journal 50c. Foreign membership \$1.00.

Address all communications to Geo. E. Moulthrope, Sec-Treas., Bristol, Conn.

VOL. 2.

JANUARY, 1904. CIRCULATION 15,000

NO 24.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Every person sending 50c during January and February, and their cabinet photo, will be entitled to a years membership in the American Historical and Natural History Photo Society, a years subscription to the WEST. and one dozen of our Gem Photos copied from any cabinet. Duplicates from same negative after first order 50 for 50c. Address all communications to **GEORGE E. MOULTHROPE, Photographer, Sec., BRISTOL, CONN.**

Rapid Developer.

A couple of years ago one of the members of the London society developed several negatives before that body in the short space of five seconds to each negative. The formula is as follows:

No. 1.

Hydroquinone20 grains
Metol20 grains
Adurol40 grains
Sodium sulphite480 grains
Water8 ounces

No. 2.

Potassium bromide10 grains
Sodium hydrate (caustic soda) 120 grs.
Water.....8 ounces

Equal parts of Nos. 1 and 2 are used without further dilution.

Printing Under Green Glass.

Printing under green glass is often strongly recommended for weak negatives on p. o. p. paper, and the results of such treatment are certainly superior to those obtained by simply printing in the shade. The reason of this, according to Mr. T. Thorne Baker, is that silver citrate is more sensitive to green rays. Hence, by exposing a piece of p. o. p., we may produce a print consisting mainly of reduced citrate which gives blacker tones than the chloride.

Ameircan Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.
Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
shipcard sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.



- 4704 A Gutmacher Muskonggo Wis
5 C Meirow Erie Pa 326 W 23st
6 C Taylor Middletown Ct 70 S
Main St.
7 C Sawyer White Heath, Ill
8 C Weil Denver Colo, 16 & Larimer
9 Dr Preston Buffalo Kans
4710 W E Parks, Little Utica N Y
1 L Billings Dead S Dak B 143.
2 D Harder Chicago Ill Green and
Superior sts
3 W Pride Boston Mass Sta A
4 W Larnade Williamsport Pa 125
Ross st
5 S Weinmann LosAngeles Calif
1239 W Lake
6 J Bisbee W Stoughton Mass
7 J Hegarbait LaCrosse Wis
8 Rev Gamble Machester Eng
Oxford Rd 17 Nelson st
9 M Goodrich, Omaha, Nebr, 2123
Merith Ave.
4720 * P McLaughlin Augusta Ga 445
Hale st
1 *E Spinony Great Falls Mont
V Ex 453.
2 *M Hulton Joplin Mo.
4 *S Morril Stamford Ct.
4 *E Seaman Salina Kans.
5 *I Sturtx 102 Madison st New
York City.
6 *A Richmond Cincid B Aires
Argt Rep.
7 *S Renno G Taylor Kent Eng
8 *F Brown Worcester Mass, 12
Hancock st.
9 *F E Barth Seattle Wash
4730 C Carmona Arima Trinidad
B W I
1 Anna Meloy Okaysville Pa.
2 H Zuelke Waupaca Wis
3 Miss J Perrin Centralia Ill
4 B Harper So McAllister Ind Ter
- 5 M Osgood Kittnery Pt Me
6 E Wallace Chico Tex
7 A Godday Guatemala S A
8 W Feber Ft Wayne Ind
9 W Stachfield Winona Minn
4740 Eliza Nash Westfield Mass.
1 J Tweed Ripley Ohio.
2 Mrs E Newton Homer N Y
3 R Peto St Petersburg Russia
nevsky 20.
4 A Berlin Bonner Spgs Kans.
*Exchange Souvenir Cards.

Amonium Persulphate Reducer.

Professor Namias gives a brief ac-
count in Eders Jahrbuch of his re-
searches on the use of the above salt,
and strongly recommends the following
formula:

Ammonium persulphate... 30 grams.
Alum 50 "
Water.....1,000, c. c.

the addition of the alum acting as a
restrainer upon the solvent power of
persulphate. Namias also combats the
idea, advanced by several writers, that
the black precipitate formed on the ad-
dition of ammonium persulphate to
silver nitrate is metallic silver, and
states that he has proved it to be hy-
posulphite of silver; and further, that
a neutral or alkaline solution of persul-
phate ammonium acts precisely the
same as an acid solution, only it is
slower.

For the reduction of prints, too, he
strongly recommends a 0.5 per cent so-
lution with one or two per cent ammo-
nia to be used before toning and fixing.



INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE.

With which is Amalgamated the World-wide Photo-Exchange

Organized for the purpose of affording its members easy facilities for exchanging photographic prints, and for mutual improvement in the art. President, G. C. Kirkland, - Denver, Colo. Vice-President, A. T. Brown, - Acton, Ont. Can Sec'y, Fayette J. Clute, - San Francisco, Cal. Yearly dues, including exchange notice and subscription to the monthly journal, "The International Photographic Exchange," 25 cents. All who subscribe for, or renew their subscription to the WEST, by sending soc to Secretary Fayette J. Clute, Marye Terrace, San Francisco, Cal. will be allowed an exchange notice, and full membership in the I. P. E., and receive both publications for one year. Unless the above rule is complied with and subscriptions sent to the secretary, membership cannot be obtained without payment of regular dues.

New Members.

Note.—W. W. P. E. and I. P. E. members are cautioned not to write these new members with out first consulting the regular "Exchange Notices" accompanying their names in the current issue of the "PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE" as many of them desire only a certain class of prints, lantern slides or stereoptic pictures, and will not honor requests in which such notices have been ignored.

- 521—Robert Charles Carter, Box 236, Rev-elstoke, B. C., Canada.
- 522—Miss Estella Matzen, R. F. D. No. 1, Leigh, Neb.
- 523—Joshua Biehn, 60½ Adelaide St., East Toronto, Canada.
- 524—Miss Clara Rogers, Silver Plume, Col.
- 525—H. W. Beers, 791 North Hamlin Ave., Chicago, Ill.
- 526—C. L. Morehouse, Southern Pines, North Carolina.
- 527—H. E. Hickox, 16 East Twenty-third Street, New York, N. Y.
- 528—J. H. Jost, Box 244, Halifax, N. S., Canada.
- 529—T. H. Woolverton, 2013 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.
- 530—Geo. H. Cox, Hays City, Kansas.
- 531—C. Weinberger, Box. 147, Idaho Springs, Colo.
- 532—Chas. Blackert, 105 North Shaffer St., Chicago, Ill.
- 533—M. S. de Moya, 533 West 147th St., New York, N. Y.
- 534—A. C. Kelty, Larkspur, Colo.
- 535—W. L. Church, Terryville, Conn.
- 536—W. N. Rogers, Black Diamond, Arizona.

- 537—Mrs. E. E. Trumbull, 10 Couch St., Plattsburg, N. Y.
- 538—M. W. Trester, 2010 Clarkson St., Denver, Colo.
- 539—Geo. W. Pettit, Station C., Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 540—Chas. Carter, 301 Darling St., Brantford, Ont., Can.
- 541—Wm. Wellman, Jr., Box 126, White Sulphur Springs, Mont.
- 542—Clarence A. Harper, St. Augustine, Fla.
- 543—William P. Hartley, 33 Temple St., Patterson, N. J.
- 544—Chas. Loeser, care Channon, Perry & Co., Rock Island, Ill.
- 545—H. W. Perry, care Channon, Perry & Co., Rock Island, Ill.
- 546—Carl A. Anderson, 546 Forty-sixth street, Rock Island, Ill.
- 547—F. E. Learing, St. Augustine, Fla.
- 548—R. E. Hackman, R. 512 Reading Terminal, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 549—Chas. F. Johnston, Lafayette, Yamhill Co., Ore.
- 550—Chas. Barker, Terryville, Conn.
- 551—Bert Baldwin, Cedar Bluffs, Neb.
- 552—Harry L. Shepherd, B. Sc., Box 573, Brockville, Ontario, Canada.
- 553—H. W. Hyink, Sioux Center, Iowa.
- 554—John P. Taggart, Box 35, White City, Kansas.
- 555—William Morey, Prince Albert St., Mosman, Sydney, N. S. W., Australia.
- 556—Walter E. Gates, Box 348, G. P. O., Sydney, N. S. W., Australia.
- 557—Miss Florence Molique, Silverton, Col.
- 558—C. H. Duncan, Box 498, Ukiah, Cal.
- 559—F. C. Handy, Talmage, Cal.
- 560—B. F. Toles, Talmage, Cal.

Notes from the Illinois College of Photography.

L. R. Ledahl has purchased the interest of Alfred Ostroot in the business at Preston, S. Dak., and will assume full charge. The studio was established by these young men and speaks well for their enterprise and I. C. P. photography.

The students were recently favored with a valuable lecture on lenses and photographic optics by Prof. Lawrence of the Bausch & Lomb company. Prof. Lawrence has an excellent method of treating these subjects.

Mr. Bissell has succeeded in obtaining the services of Prof. C. H. Mills, an experienced and expert photo-en-

This is the Largest Collectors Monthly of America for Size and Circulation

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist.

The Curio Monthly and Photo-Exchange Bulletin

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 15000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, International Stamp Collectors Association, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Twin City Philatelic Society, Texas Philatelic Association, and

New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Stamp Collectors Association, etc.

Vol. XXVI.

FEBRUARY 1904

No. 1

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 2825 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Manchester, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT: C. A. NAST, Cor. 16 and Curtis, Denver,

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOLOGY: MISS M. KELLER, Manchester, Wis.

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 36 prominent societies. THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER. The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

Have Your Ad Copy in Early. You Get Better Display and Position. Try It.

Digitized by Google

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



HE reported recent purchase at auction of a copy of the two penny blue Mauritius by the Prince of Wales excited press comment in both England and America, the transaction being made the subject of special cables and interviews with New York experts by the New York dailies. Papers on the Continent were also not remiss in their notice. The general tone of the dispatches is one of respect, although one facetious reporter ventures the prediction that "Sir Thomas Lipton can but see here a great opportunity for advantageous advertising." The enormous price paid (approximately \$7250) for this precious bit is indeed remarkable. From the London Express we learn that strangely enough, this highly prized specimen has been lying unnoticed and unvalued for forty years in a collection made by Mr. James Bonar, of Hampstead, when he was a schoolboy. Recently Mr. Bonar was showing this boyish relic to a lady, when she suddenly exclaimed, "Why, this is worth hundreds of pounds." Mr. Bonar was astonished, but an expert soon confirmed the value of the find, and Mr. Bonar obtained for it the highest price ever paid for a stamp. The sale drew a company of some 600 collectors and dealers, and competition was very keen among them. An initial bid of £500 was briskly followed by others, which raised the price to £1,200. At that point the competition slackened for the first time, but by increases of £20 and £50 the price was run up to £1,450.

With Charles E. Severn in charge of the philatelic department of the new juvenile monthly published by the Success company, and with Lewis T. Brodstone at the helm of a similar department of Youth, to say nothing of a score of other well known writers who are making successes of similar departments in other publications, the proper conveyance of reliable information to the novice and to the uninitiated proceeds apace. The one feature of the matter that is displeasing is that the first two publications are ostentatiously for young people and the philatelic departments in the others are generally inserted in the childrens' department.

We fear that our readers do not clearly understand that our Department of Inquiry is free. Few are better posted than Mr. Dorpat, and when he encounters a "poser" his extensive acquaintance with other authorities makes it certain that sooner or later the answer will be forthcoming. None of us are so expert that we do not occasionally meet with difficulties. We want you to bear in mind that the Department of Inquiry is for your use. Ask questions, as many as you please. The expense is ours, not yours.

There are occasional instances where collectors are so circumstanced that they do not feel able to pay the amount necessary to secure the WEST. We call attention to the advertisement which appears in every number of the WEST offering a life subscription to anyone who sends us an article on stamps, photography, or any other subject which the readers of the WEST are interested in. Should article be deemed of not sufficient merit to warrant us giving a life subscription for it, and still appear to be worthy, the WEST will be sent to the writer for a shorter period. Short items are also desired.

send them in, keep a record of the issues in which they appear. When ten such items have been printed, send us a memorandum of the issues in which they have been inserted and we will credit you with a paid up subscription for one year.

We have received the "Stamp Collectors' Annual and Year Book of Philately," recently issued by C. Nissen & Co., London. Edited by Percy C. Bishop. The little volume contains a surprising lot of information, and we predict a large sale. A full review will be found in the proper department.

On February 3 the following bill was introduced in the House of Representatives:—"Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representative of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever the required amount of coin to pay postage on any letter or letters, deposited in a lawful and customary mailing place, accompanies such letter or letters, it shall be the duty of the postmaster where such mail is received to affix a stamp or stamps to such letter or letters in lieu of the coin accompanying same; Provided, That all coin so deposited shall be securely attached to the letter or letters mailed, and in such a manner that it may be removed with ease and dispatch by the postmaster. Section 2.—That this act shall take effect after its passage.

Postmarks of New York

By J. W. Wheeler
72 Comstock Ave., Providence, R. I.

Note.—Corrections or additions welcomed. Cuts are half size. Continued from last month.

V.

In 1858, another new feature was added to postmarks, namely the year. The first example of this is shown in Fig. 15, which was in use during the first part of the year. In October of the same year, another similar to this appeared, Fig. 26. The type is larger and nearer the circle. In 1860 an important change was made in the postmarking system. Up to that time, postmarks had consisted of only one part, this generally speaking, containing the office, day and month. The introduction of stamps caused the addition of a second and separate part for the special purpose of cancelling the stamp. Regular despatching marks since 1860, have had a canceller of some kind, except one issue, and the interest in postmarks will hereafter be centered in the canceller as much as in the date circle. The first postmark to

appear in this shape is the same one we have just described, Fig. 16, and the canceller is shown in Fig. 17,



Fig. 15.



Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.

There were other cancellers, however, and they make an interesting study. They were generally round, but cut up into so many various designs, that they would fill a small book, and it will not pay to illustrate and describe those used before 1863. It is probable that they were made either of cork stoppers or of soft metal, for the cuttings are irregular and seem to have been made by someone in the postoffice. They were not printed at the same impression as the date circle at first, for we find the same cancellers in many different positions as regards the date circle, sometimes at the further end of the envelope. Both of these conclusions are born out by present methods in small offices, where the postmasters sometimes improvise wooden or cork cancellers, and also impress them separately onto the letters.

(To be continued.)



Counterfeits And Their Detection.

B y R. R. Thiele

(Continued.)

BREMEN. There are no end of forgeries afloat of the stamps of Bremen, and small wonder either, for all the stamps of the old Hanseatic city are scarce and some even decidedly rare. I have quite a few forgeries in my counterfeit collection, but will begin with one of the 10 grote black, (Scott's No. 7 and 14) as we have a cut of it at hand. I do not know for which one of the two the counterfeit is meant, for the perforation is so fragmentary that I cannot tell what it is meant for. The counterfeit is lithographed and in this particular resembles the original which was also lithographed. The originals were divided in the sheet by fine black lines, though these are often barely traceable as they are usually cut into by the perforation, on the forgery before me, though it has pretty good margins, there are no traces of these dividing lines--an exceptional circumstance, as most lithographed forgeries show such lines.--But to get at the stamp itself. The small figures of value in the corners offer some distinguishing features to begin with. In the right upper corner the 0 of the genuine is misshapen; next to the foot of the 1 it is identical and farther up, nearer the top of the 1 it has a curious bulge; the other half of the 0 is also flattened near the top. None of these characteristics are found in the forgery, the 0 being

quite regular in shape. The 1 is too large as compared with the original; this shows most in its being much too near the scroll work at the top, where there is a considerable space in the original. In the left upper corner there are differences also. On the genuine stamp the 1 is indented on both sides slightly above its base; the 0 is also indented near the foot of the 1; neither is the case on the counterfeit. In the left lower corner the 1 of the forgery is much too large and has a heavy sort of clubfoot while on the original the baseline is quite thin and straight. The figures of the right lower corner on my counterfeit are partly covered by the cancellation, so that I cannot well compare them with the original.--- The genuine stamps show a curious plate error. The inscriptions, as you will observe, are on a very fine background of machine engraving. About opposite of the figures of value in the left upper corner the engraver made a mistake and let the lines of this background overrun the border lines of the wavy oval, so that they touch the scrollwork around the figures, just over the B and R of BREMEN. The forger has here improved on the original and has corrected this mistake, which shows that it is often well not to try to do better than others. Still it is not safe to bank on this mark of genuineness too much, for counterfeits exist which show this error likewise.---This background of machinework has caused more grief to the engraver, for nearly every letter of BREMEN and ZEHN is more or less cut into by the lines of the background of the original, specially noticeable in the B and R, while the second E of BREMEN is so much cut into at the left foot, that it looks crippled. None of these faults show on the forgery. In the M of BREMEN the second and fourth strokes (the two

heavy ones) should be of equal width, but in this forgery the fourth (right-hand) stroke is nearly twice the width of the second stroke. In the H of ZEHN the connecting stroke in the middle is much too heavy as compared with the genuine; on the latter it is very thin and distinctly runs downward from left to right. On the Z of the same word the upper horizontal stroke is very short, considerably shorter than the lower horizontal stroke; but on the counterfeit the upper stroke is quite as long and well marked as the lower one. There are differences in all the other letters, but not such as could be easily described in words. The same is the case with the lace-like ornamentation around the central oval; it is pretty well imitated and yet shows points of difference, but it would be almost impossible to describe the details of such an intricate design in words.---The vertical lines of the background in the central oval are seldom very clear in the original, many of them being blurred and broken. In this respect the forgery is also an improvement, as all the lines are clear and distinct; but near the left line of the oval they are crowded together more closely than elsewhere which is not the case on the original. The key is fairly well imitated, but shows some little errors nevertheless. Its upper extremity, i. e. the end of the stem, should touch the oval at the left; on the forgery this is not the case, there being a distinct space here. Above the handle there should be two distinct rings around the stem, but my forgery shows only one distinctly, the other one being barely indicated.

The cancellation of my forgery is very indistinct, so that I can only say it consists of two concentric circles, the date being within the inner circle. A similar postmark did exist, lettered between the circles ST. P. A. (STADT POST AMT) above and BREMEN below, but none of these letters can be distinguished on this forgery, and besides it is smaller, so that it no doubt purely fancy.

(To be continued.)

Stamps Not Listed By Scott

The following lists have been completed for the benefit of those, who, while they take some interest in the collection of minor varieties do not possess the advanced catalogues which are such an aid to stamp study.

There are many stamps that have never found their way into American catalogues, and the study and comparison of foreign lists has revealed many unsuspected and interesting varieties.

This list does not pretend to be exhaustive; there are, for instance, many uncatalogued U. S. Locals these are reserved for fuller treatment. The prices listed here are averaged from the various foreign catalogues that give the stamp in question, and the numbers are so arranged that this may be used as a supplement to Scott's catalogue, in which capacity it may possibly be considered worthy of preservation.

U. S. GENERAL ISSUES.

1847 No. 28e (Paper variety) 5c
dark brown ON GREY \$6.50 \$ 1.00
No. 29e (Paper variety) 10c
black on grey... .. 5.00

The compilers of the Scott catalogue have probably attributed this variety in the paper to chemical action, due to the many years exposure which these stamps have undergone. But in listing this difference they would only be following in the footsteps of the British catalogues which list the one-penny red stamp on blued paper. The change is not so evident, it is true, but it is based upon the same principles. It is a question whether there was some original difference in the paper on which two varieties were printed, which has caused some of them to change and others to remain the same. Certainly Scott's stamp listed "on white" is not to be confused with the grey shade, for the difference is, if

anything, more marked than that between the grey and blue.

- 1857 No. 50b. (Plate difference)
 10c green, ORNAMENTS
 ERASED\$00.75
 No. 50c (Plate difference)
 same, partially erased..... \$00.30
 1862 No. 73d (Paper variety) 2c
 black ON WHITE PAPER
 \$00.30\$00.15

Evidently the Scott catalogue does not intend to let the collecting of paper varieties to go too far; with the unadvanced collector, at least, this must remain a dim and unexplored region.

- 1867 No. 83x (Grill variety) 12c
 black grilled 13x16 very rare

Can anyone give a good reason why this stamp is not catalogued?

- 1875 No. 179e. (Paper variety) 5c
 on bluish surfaced paper
 \$00.30\$00.04

It is doubtful if this paper a different supply, possibly the coloring matter of the stamp which was printed "on soft porous paper" which shows a tendency to take up any color with which it comes in contact.

- 1882 No. 205e (Die difference) 5c
 brown WITHOUT CROSSED
 LINES.\$00.80 \$00.10
 1888 No. 216c. (Die difference) 5c
 indigo WITHOUT CROSSED
 LINES\$1.00 \$00.50

Here is an interesting and comparatively common variety that seems never to have been listed in an American catalogue. Few collectors know of its existence, and dealers never take the trouble to look for it, probably because of the general distrust in the origin of the die. To the best of our knowledge the stamp was actually engraved twice. A limited number were printed from the first plates, in which the lines of shading about the head were too far apart, giving a certain coarse of unfinished appearance to the stamps. To correct this fault a new engraving was resorted to, and the

background was deepened and completed by crossed lines running diagonally to the parallel ones.

LOCAL STAMPS.

Allen's City Dispatch

- 1882 No 2208 K. (Shade variety)
 plum color\$ 0.35
 D. O. Blood & Co., Envelope Stamps.
 1850 No. 2254 X. (Not listed by
 Scott at all) NO COLOR ON
 BUFF\$ 5.00

As the catalogue from which this is taken does not list No. 2259 no color (simple die impression) of buff, it is very possible that this is merely a printers mistake, and that no such stamps as the one listed here is really in existence.

1851 No. 2260 Rose on buff:

Another stamp not listed by Scott, nor is there even a cut of this one to be found in their catalogue. A description of it may be useful to those who collect locals, and is by no means an uninteresting stamp to anyone. It is of a shape that is seen in no other stamps save the Centennial Envelopes of 1776, the form of an old style of shield, the outline printed double the whole way around, with the heavier line outside. Within are the words "Blood's" is in the form of a quarter-circle, and is larger than the others. Below these words, in another curve, appears the peculiar abbreviation, "Philada," On the whole this stamp is very tastefully gotten up, and is a credit to the man who designed it.

C. & W. Bridge Despatch, a couple of type-set stamps that are not considered by Scott. They appear on two colors, bronze on green, and bronze on red, bearing simply the words that indicate their purpose, and bordered with a very heavy line entirely around the stamp. No value is mentioned on the face nor are we able to find any catalogue that tells how much these little labels stood for.

In regard to the stamps listed by Scott, as Nos. 2664-5-6 and under the name "Penny Express," it may be interesting to some to know that these were really issued by the firm known as "Langton & Co.," whom many of the old-timers still recollect.

The Stamps of Roumania

Authorized Translation from the
French of Count d' Assche in
"Le Philatliste Francais"

BY R. R. THIELE.

(continued)

ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 1900.

SCOTT
TYPE
A 14

NEW design with effigy of King Charles I, profile to left, on horizontally lined ground, surrounded by an oval garter containing the inscription "Romania" in white capitals at the top and the value in words at the foot. There is a small floral ornament at each side of the garter. At the four corners there are colorless ovals containing the figure of value between the ovals and the garter there are small volutes. The stamps are rectangular; they were printed at the government office at Bucharest on medium and thin wove paper; the gum is white and they are perforated as before, $11\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$, and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ compound. The stamps bear the same embossed design as the preceding issue, generally on the back of the stamp, but sometimes also on the face. This design also exists inverted.

A. Perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.

- 222. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani, carmine.
- 223. 3 " violet.
- 224. 5 " green.
- 225. 10 " red.
- 226. 15 " greyish brown.
- 227. 25 " pale blue.

B. Perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$.

- 228. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine, light and dark.
- 229. 3 " violet mauve.
- 530. 5 " green, dark green, [bright green.
- 231. 10 " red, scarlet.
- 232. 15 " greenish brown, light [to dark.
- 233. 25 " pale blue, blue.

- 234. 50 " bright orange, (May '91
C. Perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

- 235. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine.

- 236. 3 " violet, mauve.

- 237. 5 " green, pale to dark.

- 238. 10 " red.

- 239. 15 " greyish brown, light to [dark.

- 240. 25. " blue.

D. Perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

- 240a. 25 bani blue.

E. Perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

- 240b. 25 bani blue.

(Translator's Note.—All these are lumped by Scott's catalogue under No. 94-100.)

ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 1891.

Identical with preceeding issue, but without the embossing. These stamps are printed in sheets of 130, 10 rows of 13, on medium white wove paper; perforated as before.

A. Perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.

- 241. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine.

- 242. 3 " violet, lilac.

- 243. 5 " pale green, emerald [green.

- 244. 10 " brick red, light to dark.

- 245. 15 " bistre.

- 246. 25 " pale blue.

- 247. 50 " orange.

B. Perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$.

- 248. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine.

- 249. 3 " lilac, violet.

- 250. 5 " emerald green, dark [green.

- 251. 10 " pale brick red.

- 252. 15 " bistre, light to dark.

- 253. 25 " blue.

- 254. 50 " orange.

Specialists could make two complete sets of the last perforation, one with clean perforations, the other with rough perforation, which sometimes has all the appearance of a pin perforation.

C. Perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

- 255. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine.

- 256. 3 " lilac violet.

257. 5 " emerald green, dark
[green.
258. 10 " brick red.
259. 15 " bistre.
260. 25 " blue, light to dark.
261. 50 " orange, bright orange.

D. Perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

262. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine.
263. 5 " emerald green.

E. Perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 23\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

264. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine.

Varieties.

265. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani printed on both sides.
266. 25 " double perforation.

ISSUE OF MAY 20-22, 1891.

(So-called Jubilee Issue.)



Profile to left of King Charles I, on horizontally lined ground, surrounded by large garter bearing at top the inscription "Ro-

mania" and below "Jubileul de 25 ani al Domniei Regelui Carlos I," at either side of the word "Romania" a small ornament; the figures of value in upper left and lower right corner, the word bani in the other corners. stamps are rectangular; they were printed at the government office at Bucharest, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the reign of King Charles I. The sheets consisted of 130 stamps in 10 rows of 13 stamps. The paper is white wove, of medium strength and the stamps are perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$.

267. $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani carmine.
268. 3 " lilac.
269. 5 " emerald green.
270. 10 " red, type I.
271. 10 " red, type II.
272. 15 " bistre.

The two types of the 10 bani differ in the small ornament at the right of the garter; this ornament is well designed in type I, but misshapen in type II.

Varieties.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ bani perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$.

5 bani perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

15 bani perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

During these three days, May 20-22, only letters bearing these Jubilee stamps were considered as paepaid, and about 115,000, that is about one-third of the stamps sold, were thus used; after the evening of the 22nd one could no longer obtain these stamps at the postoffices. The following quantities were printed and sold:

$1\frac{1}{2}$ bani, 990 sheets, 128,700 stamps.

3 " 992 " 128,960 "

5 " 492 " 63,960 "

10 " 490 " 63,700 "

25 " 996 " 129,480 "

A total of 3,960 sheets, or 514,800 stamps. The plates were destroyed, and there can therefore be no reprints.

(To be continued.)

There has always been great interest among young collectors in used stamps. The cancellations on them have been supposed to give them additional values, as showing that they were actually used in the countries in which they were issued. This evidence of genuineness would be a valuable thing if cancelled stamps were in all cases what they appear to be. The special liking for used stamps, however, has been met by accommodating postmasters in various countries, who have cancelled their stamps, when requested by those who are buying them. This canceling being done with the same hand stamp and under similar circumstances to those in which stamps regularly used are canceled, it is impossible to distinguish them.

The Herts Philatelic Society is able to plume itself on the fact that no stamp displayed in the exhibition after its annual dinner was worth less than £1000.



Observations on Some Original Covers

By R. R. THIELE.

(Continued)

I HAVE described quite a lot of registration labels in these notes, but new ones keep continually coming to hand. One lately received comes from the Argentine Republic. It is typeset, evidently a local production, and looks something like this:

182	Cordoba (Capitol)
R	No. _____
REPUBLICA ARGENTINA	

The fancy capital R does not stand out quite as prominently as in most of these labels. The whole is printed in black on white paper and perforated; the number is inserted by hand with pen and ink. The word "Capitol" no doubt is added to distinguish the city as Cordoba from the province of the same name. What the number 182 at the upper left stands for I cannot say; it may perhaps be the form number of this label—or is it the official number of the post office at Cordoba?—The label is stuck on a 5c red envelope of the current Argentine issue, further embellished with a 2c and 20c stamp of the current adhesive set. The stamps are cancelled with a large date stamp consisting of two concentric circles, a star and the date in two lines being within the inner circle, while between the two circles is the legend

CERTIFICADOS

CORDOBA

Next comes a date stamp on the back of the envelope; in a single circle

BUENOS AIRES

date

B

The B is perhaps the designation of that particular dating-stamp or else it is the letter denoting a certain sub-office. The familiar date stamp of the New York Registry Division comes next, dated just one month after the date of mailing at Cordoba, and then comes the arrival stamp.

Several new labels have just come to me from Chile. Two of them are on a letter received from a correspondent down there. The first one is of this shape:

R	SAN FELIPE
	No.

The label is typeset and printed in black on white paper and perforated. The name of the post office is not printed like the rest, but stamped in black by means of a rubber stamp, the number is written in with pen and ink. This is probably a blank form supplied to the smaller offices, the name being added by the respective post masters. The label is on a letter bearing two 15c stamps of the 1892 issue of Chile (the old issues are evidently still permissible for postage) and postmarked with

SAN FELIPE

7

DIC

903

CHILE

Within double circles, the date being within the inner circle and the name between the circles. The letter passed through Valparaiso, where it was postmarked on the back.

(Continued next month.)

A Key to Our Page of Rarities.

Through the courtesy of the United Stamp Co. of Chicago, we present to our readers on another page an illustration of the rarities which were contained in their very successful Schuyler Sale Part 1, and which averaged over 55 per cent of catalogue throughout.

Prices which are always of interest to collectors will be found below at which each lot sold, and it will be noted that they vary greatly owing no doubt to condition, the popularity of a country, and the amount of competition.

No. 22	\$12.20	No. 283	\$31 40
79	17.25	299	51.25
92	17.10	300	18.25
93	13.45	308	18.60
99	14.40	390	22.50
105	23.20	393	81.25
128	8.75	420	3.75
221	8.10	438	9.00
233	15.00	450	13.10
249	16.50	451	(6.75)
251	19.75	506	8.10
258	19.00	519	10.45
263	101.10	521	7.60
265	24.80	561	19.20
266	13.90	569	7.35
267	22.60		

Eighth Writers Contest *There Are No Blanks*

These contests prove so popular that, to carry out our well-known policy of endeavoring to meet our subscribers desires, we must, perforce, continue them. In submitting an article for this contest, it should be remembered that originality is the first requisite. Your ideas on a subject probably differ from others; it is your ideas that are desired. Literary training is a secondary consideration. The highest awards have been taken in previous competitions by those who had

never before written for publication. Forego hesitation.

AWARDS

- 1 Stamps, the winners selection, to catalogue value of \$25.00
 - 2 Subscription to the WEST for life \$10.00
 - 3 Stamps, the winner's selection, to catalogue value of \$10.00
 - 4 Stamps, choice lot, our selection, catalogue value, \$5.00
 - 5 Stamps, desirable, our selection, catalogue value \$2.00
- The above awards will be made in the order indicated. Entrance and the selection of the winners governed by the following.

RULES

- 1 Only subscribers are eligible.
- 2 Name and address of the author must appear at the top of the first page of the article.
- 3 Contestants are requested to use paper the ordinary letter head size (about 8x11).
- 4 Each article should contain not less than 400 nor more than 800 words.
- 5 The article submitted some one of the following subjects are suggested: "Why I Collect Stamps"; "Philolety a Necessity"; "Speculation Championed"; "My Favorite Country"; "Necessary Reforms"; "Personal Reminiscences." "Why I collect coins, curios, relics, etc."
- 6 Each article submitted becomes the property of the WEST.
- 7 The editorial staff of the WEST sit as judges.
- 8 All articles must be addressed to Contest Editor, The WEST, Superior, Neb., and must be mailed on or before Apr. 20, 1904.

CONSOLATION AWARDS

To every contestant will be given a years subscription to the WEST. We inaugurated these competitions and continue them to stimulate our readers to study. Any original article, unless absolutely without merit, is considered evidence of the accomplishment of this purpose, and the year's subscription is given as a compensation more substantial than mere thanks.

Read The Rules.

Notes From Europe.

By J. C. Auf Der Heide

THE first thing I have to do is to ask the readers of the WEST to forgive me, that I did not send my letter to the WEST earlier. Business was the reason, that I could not find time to scribble some English together for the dear readers.

I do not know if there are many among the readers of the WEST who know about the Dutch Indies. As we look at France, Great Britain and Germany, and not to forget Portugal, which countries give a special stamp for the most insignificant colony or island we wonder that there exists but one issue for the Dutch Indies. The Great Islands are Sumarta, Borneo (the greater part), Celebres, Moluccas, Banka, Biliton, Madura, Bali, Biliton, Sambarra. Flores, Timor, and Dutch New Guiana, each has the right to issue a special set of stamps for itself. But a fourth part of the Island of the Island of Borneo is British possession, and for this small part there are four distinct stamp issues, those of Sarawak, British North Borneo, Labuan and Brunei, for the Dutch part only the regular Dutch Indies stamps are used. England and Germany have their special sets for New Guiana, Holland nat., Timor. the smaller part belongs to Portugal and has its own stamps, the Dutch part not. So the readers must not wonder to here that Holland is the second colonial power in the world. If there should come from every island, small or large, a special set of postage stamps, Dutch stamp dealers could make good business. But let me pray heaven that the twentieth century will not bring us this chance, as we have already too much colonial stamps.

The new 2c American stamps have been received here. I find them much more beautiful than the other 2c stamp.

On one of the latest auctions here stamps brought only one-eighth and one tenth catalogue value, but I want to say, that most of the stamps were damaged and this dealer will not hold another auction, as he fears, there would not come assistants.

Some of the new stamps for the Dutch Indies have already appeared. They do not look very pretty. The colors are not fine. The 10c and 30c are already coming in quantity, but of the 20c I received only one copy, some fourteen days ago, and after that time I did not see another copy.

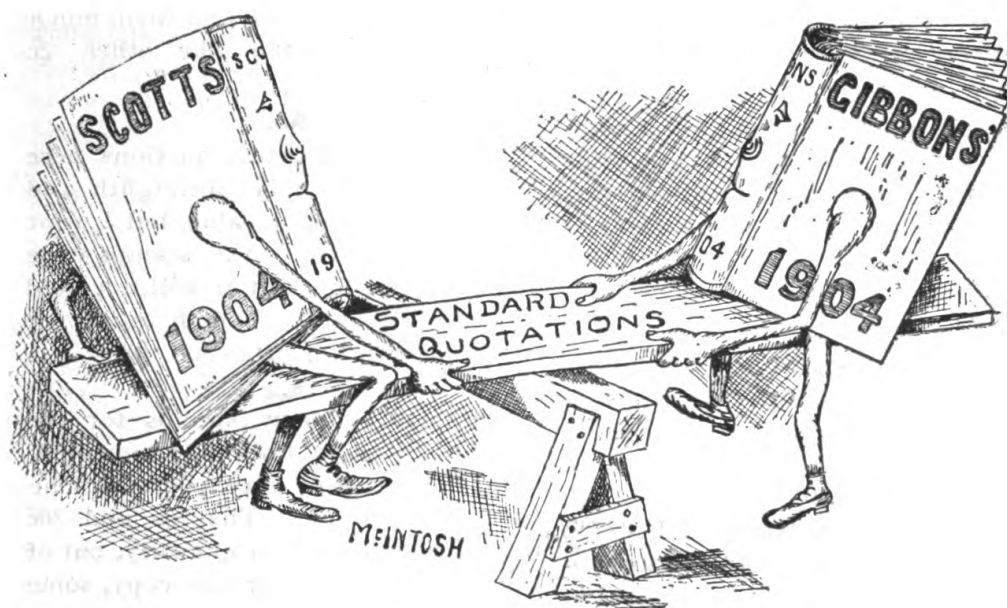
A stamp that is very rare, and of which you cannot buy more than fifty copies in our city at all, and only if you pay far above catalogue, is the postage due stamp of 1881, 12½c blue. If you can pick up a copy of this stamp at 15 to 20 cents, American, then you will have a bargain.

The 5 Gulden stamps of Holland 1896 three colors, bronze, green and red brown, grows more rare every day. There was a time, two years ago, that they were sold here at 60c, now they are not to be had at this price by wholesale. So there is a rapid raise in prices of all Dutch and Dutch Colonial stamps.

Too True.

Mekeels Stamp Collector.

The Jewish is not the only nation without a country. Many a collector, striving to work up a profitable foreign exchange has been surprised at the widespread dissemination of the tartar.



This time honored game destroys confidence in the so called Standard Catalogues.

Q u o t a t i o n s

Mekeel's Stamp Collector.

I believe you have done collectors a great service in calling attention to the catalogue question in the way you have been comparing Gibbon's actual selling prices of British Colonials with Scott's "quotations—58c post free." My specialty is Gibraltar; I note the following:

	Scott	Gibbons
1886-98, 4p.....	\$1.50	\$4.35
1889 50c50	.12

These figures destroy my confidence in the so called "Standard" catalogue. If some stamps are quoted at $\frac{1}{3}$ of what they are worth and others at 4 times their value, what are we to think?

Paul Kohl's Catalogue **By L. G. DORPAT**

SOME POINTS OF EXCELLENCE.

This catalogue though at 75c higher in price than others, is well worth the price asked. Anyone who understands but a

little German will be able to use it with advantage. All country names are given in German, English and French. The numbers are given to "straight" issues only, while varieties and subvarieties are very exhaustively treated under the letters a, b, c, etc and in notes. Official reprints under the term "Ueudruck" are distinguished from private reprints under the term "Uachdruck". The illustrations are clear, and the watermarks are represented in the text as well as the stamps themselves. Differences of perforation are mentioned under the same number, also differences of surcharge, but the prices for both, used and unused, are given. In a profusion of notes a wealth of detailed information is given, including in many cases a reference to philatelic books or journals. Paper, binding and general appearance are as good as can be wished for. For beginners the cuts of U. S. stamps are of especial value, while the advanced collector and specialist will appreciate the classification of different printings. In the U. S. periodicals, for an instance, we have 41 numbers, but for Nos. 1-3 (1865)

we find two kinds of paper and two shades of color as well as the reprints of 1875 mentioned. For No. 4 we find two shades, two papers and two reprints (1875 and 1880). For Nos. 5-29 are mentioned two to five shades and six printings for each number as far as they exist. For Nos. 30-41 two papers are noted, without and with watermark. Prices are not always given; as for the last issue the 1c, unused, without watermark, only is priced. But if we read what is said in the preface about prices, we must agree that no price at all is better than a merely fictitious or arbitrary price. Those prices which are given seem to be as nearly correct as can be established and where no price is stated it may be taken for granted that the market has not established any price at all yet. To express my personal sentiment, I would say that I value Scotts, Senf's, Gibbon's and Bright's catalogues and would not be without them, but Kohl's is superior to every one of them and I prize him most of all. I can never expect to get all the stamps that Kohl's book prices, but those stamps which I have or may get Kohl's book tells me more about them than any other catalogue. Among the advertising pages page 958 offers a "Lupe" or magnifying glass which seems to deserve especial mention, as it holds the stamp under it down flat and enables one to examine it better than under any other form of glass.

The Stamps of the Popes.

Stamp Collector's Fortnightly

Philatelists possess a permanent memorial of the bad old days of the Temporal Power in the shape of the stamps of the Papal or Pontifical States, issued and used between 1852 and 1870. It is incorrect, by the way, to call these "the stamps of the Popes," because they began and ended within the reign of a single Pontiff—the long-lived Pius IX.

Stamps as Investments.

Another "Post Office" Mauritius stamp has turned up. It is expected that this copy will realize fully \$5000.00. Alas! in 1893 we sold the 1d and 2d "Post Office", both unused, for \$3900.00, and the lucky owner, we know, values them now at close on \$15000.00. Fine old stamps are undoubtedly a good solid investment, outside of all question of study and philatelic purposes.

The "Hotel dela Monnaie" in Paris, France has a remarkable specimen of nearly all the French and foreign stamps and the collection of the Ministry of Marine is also very famous.

One of the largest collections in Europe belongs to the son of the Duchess of Galliera. Its library has nearly 300 volumes and its cost has already amounted to \$300,000. That of Mr. de Rothschild in Paris is valued at 200,000 francs (\$40,000).

Not only have the French philatelists their club and their official journal but they also have their Stock Exchange, their bulls and bears.

Must Have Stamps Anyway.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.

The island of Aitutaki a new stamp issuing country is one of the Cook group of islands recently included in the boundaries of New Zealand. It is distant from Rarotonga 120 miles, has an area of about seven square miles and a population of about 1,200, including about ten Europeans.

Do It Now.

"Get the habit!" you who haven't

All the wealth you want to use;
Word your ads so folks will read them
As they do the current news.

Print 'em early, print 'em often,

Lest your profit up to date—

Profit once so sleek and bulky—

Dwindles smaller while you wait.

Stamp Advertising

By Henry Herbert Huff

Without advertising, stamp dealers would be unable to inform the public of the goods they are offering for sale, and consequently could not dispose of them very readily. Since advertising plays such an important part in making a success of this form of business it is well that all stamp dealers be familiar with all matters pertaining to it.

If a small and poorly conducted ad seen in one issue of a periodical fails to bring returns, do not denounce the medium. In a majority of cases you are responsible for its failure to bring replies—not the magazine. Let us make a practical analysis of this matter and ascertain the real reason for the ad not proving profitable.

First. Do not expect an ad costing about ten cents and calling for a dollar to make you rich. Use plenty of space. An ad occupying a few lines may fetch some ten cent orders but it won't bring you many dollar bills. The bigger the ad, the better returns will be. Money spent in advertising is never wasted.

Second. Much depends upon the reading matter contained in an ad. A dealer who is unable to write a good ad should employ a professional ad writer. An ad should present the argument intended to convince the public in a clear and reasonable manner. However, an ad to bring results must contain information. Don't expect an ad running something like this to be very successful: "Stamps on approval, 50 per cent disc., Gem Stamp Co., Troy New York," or Star Stamp Co., Butte Mont., have a full stock of choice stamps on hand. Give us a trial order." Nearly all stamp companies offer stamps at 50 per cent discount,

and many induce patronage by giving free stamps to applicants. Now why would this particular firm be liable to receive many applications for sheets when no special is given as with many dealers and no argument made that their goods are in anywise superior to those of others? In the second ad by the information given we cannot ascertain why they are high priced or cheap on their goods. Neither can we give them a trial order when we know not what they have to offer. What reader is going to the trouble and expense of requesting their price list when another advertiser (perhaps on the same page) gives prices and full information regarding the "Stamp Bargains" he has to offer? Nine out of ten will buy direct from the ad. Third. All advertisements should have at least three insertions before the pulling qualities of the publication can be determined. Put that down in large type. The public is slow to stir. One appearance of the ad simply makes an impression; the second is a little deeper; but the third or fourth usually has made sufficient impression to move the reader to reply if there is any chance of securing him. Many failures are due to the advertiser's not giving the medium sufficient opportunity to prove its paying qualities.

One of the best ways in which to acquire a knowledge of the forces that make advertising successful is to study the methods of those who have made it profitable. Generally the most paying ads are those that are original and different from the usual. Remember, the public are a curiosity seeking people. The man that so arranges his ad that it will attract attention is the one that handles the coin.

When a stamp collector forgets to count his stamps periodically, he has certainly become a thorough philatelist.

Worship of Philatelic God Declining.

By E. R. Holmes

I NTERESTING facts about one of the "philatelic gods," if we may so speak of them, are given in a recent letter from Rev. Penry J. Bruce of Sarata, India.

The god is Ganpatti, whose rude image is seen on the crude stamps of the state of Dutia, known to most collectors only from the catalogue cuts, since the stamps themselves are seldom seen. As has been mentioned already in the WEST. The image of this elephant headed deity is used on the stamps because Ganpatti is the god of literature and wisdom, as well as of commerce and communications, and he is invoked at the beginning of letters. Mr. Bruce's letter which has been published in a religious paper, gives some developments of the worship of this queer deity.

"The annual Ganpatti festival has just passed, and it has been the occasion of some unusual developments. Ganpatti is the elephant headed god—the god of wisdom and learning, and the patron of all Hindu students. The Hindu school boys are expected to worship him at the the commencement of school every morning, sometimes under compulsion from their masters. His image is drawn upon their slates and copy books and in their correspondence his symbol is placed at the head of every letter.

"Annually at about this time his festival occurs, and the whole Hindu community seems to be turned into Pandemonium. Countless earthen images of him are made by the potters and painted in gay colors. These have usually been sold to the people for a pittance, taken home and worshiped for a few days, and then thrown into a river or some pool of water, or into the



ocean when they are near enough to it.

"Ganpatti is supposed to ride out upon a rat, and a strange fact, whether a coincidence or otherwise, very soon after this Ganpatti festival the rats begin to die and the recrudescence of the plague has come to be expected. Last year more than usual attention was given to the festival and the scourge of plague that followed was worse than ever before. So the people begin to think that there is some connection between the plague and the festival of Ganpatti, and this year they have been afraid to worship their idol. The images were made as usual but there were few purchasers. Prices were reduced to one-half or one fourth of what they were before, but very few were brave enough to take the risk of plague. In some places where the people have been accustomed to celebrate the festival it was not observed at all this year."

How a Young Philatelist Secured a Position 9

By E. C. WARNER

When "Jim" Thorne, an engineer on a western railroad, was killed in an accident, his oldest son Tom decided that he would have to leave school and seek some employment to help provide for his younger brothers and sisters. A few hundred dollars insurance was the sole resource left to provide for the little family and this would last but a short time unless some new source of income was found. One evening Tom shocked his mother by declaring that he had made up his mind to leave the little village and go to Chicago. At such a proposal the poor woman was much distressed, but to all her pleadings and remonstrances her son replied proudly that he was sixteen years old and fully able to take care of himself. When a week had passed and she had been unable to dissuade him from his purpose, his mother finally consented to his plan, though with many misgivings as to its outcome. At last after much solemn preparation, the momentous hour set for his departure arrived and after many tearful admonitions from his mother and brave assurances on his part, Tom found himself speeding on his journey. After all the scenes with which he was familiar had been left behind, his ardor abated just a little, but he soon became absorbed in contemplation of the swiftly passing panorama which he saw from the car window and he forgot to be homesick. When he alighted from the train at the Chicago station and had found his way to the street, it seemed as though he had suddenly transplanted to some fairy wonderland, so unusual were the sights and sounds that greeted him. The clang of the street cars, the rumble and roar of the elevated trains, the strident cries of the street venders

and the thousand and one other noises wakened in him a vague sense of fear and he almost wished himself safely back in the quiet village.

But it was too late now to turn back and he resolved to stick manfully to his purpose. He had a letter of introduction from the secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at home to the Chicago branch and by following the directions of a policeman he reached their headquarters. There he was directed to a boarding house where he would be assured good care in comfortable surroundings. The next morning he started out bright and early, determined to lose no time in finding work of some kind. However after an hour had been spent with no success his courage began to falter. Wherever he applied he was told that there were no vacancies or that city experience was necessary. At one place he endeavored to show a letter of recommendation from his teacher but was rudely told that it was of no account as a reference. When he had spent the whole day in a vain search, he trudged back to his lonely room, weary of body and sick at heart. The following days brought no better reward and at the end of a week his small supply of money had dwindled to an amount barely sufficient to pay his carfare home. He had been an enthusiastic collector at home and had brought his collection with him. These could be sold but the thought of parting with them was one which he would not entertain. One morning when he had concluded that he would have to give up and admit defeat his attention was attracted to an "ad" in a paper he had picked up. Resolved to try once more, he repaired to the address given. When he arrived at the large wholesale house, he found that a number of boys had preceded him. Soon others came until a score or more of eager-faced youths occupied the two long benches near the manager's office, anxiously

awaiting their fate, Presently an attendant beckoned to one of them and notified him that the manager would see him. After a moment's interval, the youth returned from the private office, but his look of disappointment as he walked toward the door showed that he had been rejected. A half dozen others followed only to be dismissed. Finally Tom was summoned and he tremblingly entered the presence of the manager. After a few questions the latter said: "No, I don't believe we can use you. We want someone with more"—. Here he was interrupted by a young man who approached him bearing a letter in his hand. "Mr. Slaton" he said addressing the manager, here's an order from a new customer. The credit man isn't here today—thought I had better find out whether you want to ship the goods." "Where is it from?" asked the manager. "The letter is headed, Massowah, Eritrea. I can't make out whether it is in Asia or Africa—the writing isn't clear. The postmark on the envelope is blurred." "Pardon me, sir," broke in Tom, "but I think I can tell you. Eritrea is a small Italian Colony on the east coast of Africa. Massowah is its principal city, located on the Red Sea."

"How in the world do you happen to know all this?" inquired Slaton. "Oh I'm a stamp collector—they're generally posted on such matters," said Tom confidently. "Blake", said the manager, you bring me an atlas—I want to see just how much this young man does know." When it had been brought to him he opened it and then turning to Tom said, "Now may be you can tell me where Tahiti is"? "Tahiti is a small island in the Pacific Ocean. It is one of the group known as the Low Archipelago, and is a French possession", was the prompt answer. Other questions followed but Tom was equal to the ordeal. "Humph", grunted the ques-

tioner, "I always thought this stamp fad was a humbug—guess there's something in it after all". Then he added, "Well, my boy, I guess we can find a place for you. You can report tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock."

That night Tom wrote a long letter to his mother, and a few days after his friends at home read in the village paper that "Thomas Thorne of this city has accepted a position with King, Carson & Co. of Chicago."

All this happened several years ago. "Tom" is now a full grown man and occupies a responsible position with a large firm in Chicago. His mother and his brothers and sisters long since joined him in the city and they occupy a comfortable home in one of the suburbs. Among all his worldly goods, Mr. Thorne holds most dear his stamp collection, now grown to large proportions.

At a meeting of a philatelic society recently, a diatribe written by a learned (?) English author, and entitled "The Folly of Collecting" was being discussed Tom Thorne was present and when his opinion was asked he told this story of how he got his first start, for an answer.

Postage Stamps as a Legal Tender.

F. E. Halbert

We were recently informed by an old resident that owing to scarcity of small coin just previous to the civil war, postage stamps were often used for change in ordinary business transaction in this section of the county. The five and ten cent denominations were the most used and occasionally one of the higher values. These stamps were not encased or protected in any way and thus the liability to stick together was a general nuisance. I have never heard of stamps not encased being used as money elsewhere in the U. S. at any time.

Washington Notes C. M.

THE most interesting publication of the month is the new edition of the "horse book" from the Department of Agriculture. It has been brought down to date and many new articles added. To be procured through a member of Congress, or by purchase (65 cents) from the Superintendent of Documents, Union Building, Washington, D. C.

The Bureau of American Republics publishes the following list of the present value of the unit coins of South American countries. Paraguay has no gold or silver coins of its own stamping but the peso of other countries circulates there at its face value.

Argentine Republic,	Peso	.965
Bolivia	Boliviano	.408
Brazil	Milreis	.546
Costa Rica	Colon	.465
Guatemala	Peso	.408
Honduras	"	.408
Nicaragua	"	.408
Salvador	"	.408
Chili	"	.365
Columbia	"	.408
Cuba	"	.965
Ecuador	Sucre	.487
Hayti	Gourde	.965
Mexico	Dollar	.443
Peru	Sol	.487
Uruguay	Peso	1.034
Venezuela	Bolivar	.193

The weekly papers have given the denominations and main features of the designs for the Louisiana stamps. The designs have been approved by the Third Assistant Postmaster General, and by the time this is in print will be ready for the press.

In the December "notes," in the

statement of stamps delivered the second entry of 2c under the U. S. and Phillipines refers to the stamp books.

The First Assistant Postmaster General in his report says: "Cancellation, postmarking, and back-stamping are of vast importance," and hangs on this text a lecture on the difficulty the Department has in securing legibility of postmarks. This, however is not for the benefit of collectors, but for the legal proceedings which may hinge on a date.

The Postal Guide for 1904 is out while this gives a complete list of postoffices, the rural free delivery routes, which are really traveling postoffices; are not included, and the collector of postmarks, if he wishes to list these varieties, must apply to the Postoffice Department for a list of these routes which is published separately.

A New Freak.

By Floyd A. Haus.

In looking through a lot of stamps recently I found what I think to be a rare freak. It was a 5c Wurtenburg official envelope, white paper, of the 1890 to 94 issue, Scott's number from 308 to 311, which cannot be definitely told, which was embossed but not printed.

I now believe this one to be the only one in existence, for the following reasons:

First.—This is an envelope and not more than one could be embossed at once, and Second, the government is very careful about such freaks, and that seldom pass into circulation unnoticed.

One queer thing is that it is unused and cut square with a good margin. The way in which it came into my

possession is curious enough. A friend of mine bought a five hundred variety packet from one of the leading stamp firms and after taking out about a hundred sold the balance to me for about seventy-five cents. I bought them to use only as exchange and as I was very busy I did not get a chance to look them over until a short time back when I found this.

Now I want to ask collectors one question—does it not pay to look over your duplicates.

Notes on Fiscal Stamps

By N. P. Young
Second in contest for 1000 varieties
Fiscal Stamps offered by F. H. Peterson

I asked to name the chief charm of collecting I should be inclined to sap the uncertainty. Almost every collector has in his album treasures that his brother fiends never saw, read about, or dreamt concerning. Then again revenues are not issued for the benefit of the gay and restive philatelist, but for the actual needs of the country that prints them. They will compare favorably with postage stamps in coloring, workmanship and general effect. Take a sheet of white cardboard, select from 40 to 100 revenues arrange them tastefully, frame them appropriately, and then hang them upon the walls of your room, library or den, and you have a "thing of beauty" and "a joy forever" at slight expense.

I began to collect revenue stamps away back in the dark ages, when collecting the same was considered a crime, and the rash collector ostracized from the society of the other cranks. My album is of the vintage of 1894, and bears the well known imprint of J. Walter Scott. I will admit frankly that it has served its usefulness, but I have had it so long that it seems now like one of the family, and I hate

to part with it, although it is slightly frayed around the edges, its pages soiled a trifle, and it bulges just a few. As a conveyor of information it has had its day, and now what it does not tell is legion. But every page whispers to me a story, and it is one of the few links that bind me to the boyhood days, long past. I commenced the battle of life by allowing the drug business to adopt me, and I well remember one of the first things I learned was that lacto peptine came in five pound bottles, and that each and every bottle contained affixed thereto some six or eight of the N. Y. Pharmica Association 4c stamps, and as the cellar of the store contained countless empty bottles. I soon had these stamps galore. I think at this late day it is safe to admit that I kept on hand a supply of the proprietary stamps, series of '78, which I exchanged with the patent medicine bottles on the shelves. Some of these bottles had playing card, document, and telegraph stamps in place of the proprietary; in fact in those halcyon days, any old thing from a tobacco tag to a spool cotton label seemed to suffice.

This reminds me that only a few weeks ago a friend in Ohio sent me a portion of a legal document containing a couple of Barber and Peckham match stamps, doing service as document stamps.

After mastering some of the mysteries of the retail drug trade, I forsook it for the attractions of a law office. Here were philatelic fields unheard of. I reveled among musty documents. I foundered in a sea of stamps. Had I but cast my prophetic eye into the dim and distant future, selected wisely and retained. I would not still be struggling for my daily bread. I only know that my private

collection gotten together in those good old days will hold up its head among the proudest in the land. There are some that are better but there are many that are not as good. About a year or so ago a friend of mine succeeded to an old established firm; in looking over the accumulation of decades he naturally unearthed stamps by the ton. An acquaintance of his asked him to mail a few to a relative who had recently joined the ranks, and a small package selected at random and without knowledge was shipped to the youthful enthusiast.

Those remaining consisting of several barrels full were consigned to the tender mercies of the furnace. A few days after the cremation my friend received a communication, thanking him for the specimens sent, and saying "they were just splendid, some of them I sold for \$5 apiece." For several weeks after my friend remained clad in sack cloth and ashes.

I remember well of letting quite a number of 10c proprietary 1878 go for 25c each, and thought I was making a good deal, they are now catalogued at \$12 each. And about the same time could have purchased 100 of the 50c proprietary of 1874 for \$35, but thought it was tying up too much good money; they were green paper and are now worth \$250 per 100. Quite a fair profit had I embraced the offer.

Glance at the pages of an average revenue collection; you cannot spend a more pleasant or profitable hour. Take the Match and Medicine stamps, they are of all sorts kinds, and classes, colors, shapes, and degrees. Some are gems, both in design and as specimens of the engravers skill, all are of interest. Look carefully at the State Revenues, surely they are worth preserving. How much information can you give off hand concerning them? I am afraid that the wisest can give

us but little regarding these peculiar looking stamps.

Turn over another page and you have probably the revenues of Austria, they are not remarkably beautiful, but the quantity is sufficient, and the same may be said of Belgium's issues. Those of Brazil are pleasing to the eye, while the Revenue stamps of Canada are by far the most artistic of any foreign issue. Canada has probably unconsciously added many recruits to the small army of revenue collectors, and in the days to come will continue to swell the ranks. The Cape of Good Hope has an ordinary lot, those of Ceylon are not particularly startling, Cuba has some rather pretty specimens, Denmark some that are quite interesting, likewise Finland, a few of the revenues of France are worth a second glance but the majority are not at all remarkable. Germany has some that are plain and neat, Great Britain a sufficient number of designs to suit all tastes. Her embossed revenues in colors are certainly very interesting. The Hawaiian Isles issues are valuable additions to any collection. Italy has a large variety, some are very good, so with India, Jamaica adds but little to the stock, but Mexico can fill a small album herself, by the number issued by this country one might think that the entire population was engaged in their manufacture. A package of Mexican revenues would bring joy to many a young collectors heart, and stir up some of the old ones, too. Really pages could be written concerning this country alone. New South Wales adds but little of value to the general whole, but some of them are quite neat. New Zealand turns out some interesting ones. Nova Scotia uses the revenues of Canada, surcharged N. S., one specimen in my collection bears in

ink the date 1868, am inclined to think these were the first surcharges thrown at the poor collector. Peru has some very good looking specimens, and and those of Philippine Islands and and Porto Rico are of interest to American collectors aside from other reasons. Prussia issues some that are quite striking, Queensland revenues on the whole are rather poorly engraved, Roumania's issue are a welcome addition, while those of Russia of course are odd and consequently interesting. Spain has some that are quite pretty, Switzerland has some beautiful ones, Tasmania some that are characteristic of that peculiar country.

Turkey has some neat specimens and others of poor workmanship, Victoria can satisfy almost any desire in the stamp line in fact she issues a collection in itself.

Remember that revenues were not issued wholly for the purpose of drawing the shekel from the philatelic pockets, remember also that revenues particularly foreign ones are low in price; so that for a few pieces of copper quite a respectable nucleus can be formed, and you can reasonably expect to easily obtain specimens that the eyes of your brother collector have never feasted upon. Here is an almost unexplored region, flowing with philatelic milk and honey, filled with philatelic flowers, and rich in philatelic flowers, and rich in philatelic gems. Brother collector if your feet have not wandered amidst its groves, just take one short walk in this enchanting land.

When you stop and think that as yet no suitable album has been prepared for these interesting and beautiful emanations. You can but wonder that this fascinating and important branch of philately has so long been neglected. But I trust better days are

coming, and if this little rambling sketch succeeds in making but one convert to the ranks; I shall feel that whoever he is, he will obtain considerable pleasure from the act, and I shall feel repaid in the thought of having adoped a trifle to brighten the pathway of some fellow being.

JOIN THE PHILATELIC FISCAL SOCIETY!

There are few national mail routes in Colombian Republics. The Colombian republic stamps are used on letters, going to places on the national routes and to foreign countries. Each state has independent mail routes of its own. On the mail routes the mail is carried by men on mules or in canoes. Colombian Republic was first known as the Republic of New Granada. In 1860 the name was changed to United States of New Granada. In 1886 the present name Colombian Republic was chosen. The departmental or independent stamps of Bolivar are sold only in lots of \$2,000 face value.

There are many collectors of British stamps who do not confine themselves to postage stamps, pure and simple, but go in also for "Officially Sealed" labels, unpaid letter surcharges, Registration Fee labels,



and all such things. To these it will be a matter of some interest to learn that the gummed label which the English postal officials apply to letters handed in for express delivery is now being printed on pink paper instead of the pale, "washed out" looking red formerly in use.

The Investment Craze.

By Verna W. Hanway

THE novice starts on his philatelic career with the brightest of hope and anticipation. His hobby becomes part and parcel of him. He spends his money freely, even lavishly. When accused of being extravagant by spending his money upon a mere hobby he informs his accuser that it is an "investment, safe and sure." This to a certain extent is true.

Most collectors love their hobby with an unselfish love, but yet none of us can entirely rid ourselves of the habit of viewing stamps from a financial standpoint. The catalogues do much towards nourishing this. No other hobby has the advantage as has philately of having a standard by which can be measured the value of our possessions. By our having this standard, however, we acquire the habit of measuring our stamps by catalogue prices.

Some collectors look upon philately as they do upon the theatre. It is a pastime, a pleasure, a tonic, the money spent is gone as soon as paid out. Let these collect in their own manner. Perhaps some day they may be brought to see the folly of their ways.

Do not think for one moment that I wish you to take a sordid view of philately, that I do not wish you to collect for your pleasure, that I wish you to collect merely for investment purposes, far from this is my intention in the writing of this article. I have from time written condemning this investment idea. Our collections are something to be kept and enjoyed, not to be disposed of at the first opportunity we have of disposing for a profit.

Still it is right that we to some extent consider our stamps from an investment standpoint. We all probably

put more money into the stamps than we could afford if we did not have some idea of the investment element in view.

It is possible, however, to make a fairly large collection of from five to ten thousand of stamps that never appreciate. The collector may also pay for these stamps a sum that will not admit of any profit. One cannot expect to make a fortune out of a collection whose stamps do not cost more than three cents each. Thus it may be plainly seen that the collector who wishes to collect wisely must study.

Every collector has experienced the joy of suddenly finding that the stamp he purchased some time ago has increased in value. As I said before, it is not possible to totally disregard the financial side of philately. And this is as it should be. No collector wishes to possess the stamp that has no philatelic value, in other words no catalogue value. The collector of experience only purchases desirable stamps.

Most of the lower priced stamps of late years are issued by the million. Therefore, used copies may be had for years, but when stamps become obsolete unused cannot be procured. So it may be plainly seen that while in unused the limit of supply has been reached, used existing by the million are not likely to appreciate. It may be safely said, buy unused for investment purposes.

Year after year foolish collectors spend their money recklessly, even foolishly. While stamps cost money, as everything else the wise know where and what to buy. I cannot refrain from quoting a verse which appeared in a philatelic journal some time ago:

"The stamps of some men found and kept,

Were not all gained by money's might—
But they, while others dreamed and
slept,
Were searching garrets in the night."

If we examine the result of careful collecting we find abundant evidence of the fact that a collector may enjoy his stamps and if ever the force of circumstances compel him to abandon his collection he can do so without regret for having spent his money upon a mere hobby. For man is at his best a selfish creature, he cannot even spend his money upon his pleasures without some thought of what he will gain in return.

A Collection of Decorated Stamped Envelopes

ONE of the many ways in which the patriotic spirit of both Northerners and Southerners expressed itself during the Civil War was the use of decorated envelopes. These envelopes were made to sell to the general public; business houses had their own special designs, and many men and women had the envelopes, used in their private correspondence, ornamented with their own special designs much the same as the smart letter paper of the present day.

The extent to which this use of decorated envelopes is shown by a collection of them that has been formed by Henry Blackwell, of New York City. Mr. Blackwell has 7,000 separate envelopes in his collection, and was twenty years collecting them.

The best series in the collection is one based on the rhyme, The "House-That-Jack-Built." The first envelope shows a cut of the Capitol at Washington with the line over it, "The house that 'Uncle Sam' built." The second shows a fat malt bag on which is printed, "The blessing we have en-

joyed as one people," and the rhyme beneath reads, "This is the malt that laid in the house that Uncle Sam built," Number three shows a rat labelled, "Secession," and the lines, "This is the rat that eat the malt that laid in the house that Uncle Sam built." Next comes comes a big cat cat "Union Preserved," which "is the cat that will kill the rat that ate the malt," etc. A dog labelled "Jeff" is over the line, "Davis is the dog that worried the cat that will kill the rat" etc. A cow marked "Scott" is "the cow with the crumpled horn"; Liberty is "the maiden all forlorn"; Uncle Sam is the man all tattered and torn," and Washington is "the parson now dead and gone that married the man all tattered an torn."

One of the crudest kind represents a mule labelled "Southern Confederacy" pulling away from a hitching post on which a U. S. flag is flying. From the tail of the donkey a Confederate flag flies, and this gem of sardoc humor is called "Southern Ass-Stock-Crazo," which is explained by the line "Southern Aristocracy" underneath. A white skull and crossbones on a black flag are the sign of "J. D., His Marque," the fling of course being at Jefferson Davis. The President of the Confederacy was a favourite subject of these cartoonists.

The formation of this collection of Mr. Blackwell's was a matter of much labor. The envelopes came from all sorts of places, the most frequent source being out of the bags and trunks of officers. On going over war relics, numbers of the envelopes were unearthed, and these gradually fell into his hands. The greatest number he ever succeeded in getting at one time was a lot of over 4,000.—Hobbies.

Sir Rowland Hill was the originator or inventor of the postage stamp system in 1840.

Inscriptions on Stamps

By L. G. Dorpat

(Continued.)

CHINA issued in 1878 three stamps with Chinese and English inscriptions. The first of these is of the value of 1 cadarin. The Chinese characters in the upper right and left corners read "To Ching," Chinese Empire. The three characters in the right hand panel from above downward read "Yu-Cheng-Chu," Post Administration Bureau. The three characters in the left hand panel from above downward read "Yi-Fen-Cheng" One-Candarian-mace. The other two values have the same inscription as the first with the exception of the upper character in the left hand panel. The three c has in this pannel "San-Fen-Chieng," Three-Candarin-Mace; and the five cent has "Wu-Fen-Chieng" Five-Candarian-Mace.

In 1885 a new set of three stamps was issued, a little smaller than the first issue. The inscriptions on these although slightly modified, are the first as on the first issue. The issue of 1894 consists of 9 values. The 1c has "Yi-Fen" One-Candarian in two small circles above, "To-Ching-Kno-Yu-Cheng" Chinese-Empire-State-Post Administration, in the larger central circle from right to left. It will be noticed that "Kno" is a new character, meaning state or kingdom. The 2c has "Erh-Fen" Two Candarins in the upper corners, "To-Ching Kno" Chinese-Empire-State in the right hand panel. On the other values these inscriptions are repeated, except the the inscription of value. The 9c has in addition to the common inscription, a circular character in the center that looks like an ornament; this reads "Shou" Long-Life, and is surrounded by a circle of bats, the emblems of happiness. The central design of the the 12c is the official seal of the

Chinese Postal Administration and reads "Ching-Yu-Cheng" Chinese-Post Administration. The values are expressed in the upper right hand corners, and read as follows: "San" Three, "SSu" Four, "Wu" Five, "Liu" Six, "Chiu" Nine, "Shih-Erh" Ten-Two (12), and "Erh-Chieng-SSu-Fen" Two Mace Four Candarins which is the same as 24 Candarins, the Candarian being the tsnth part of a mace. The surcharge of 1897 reads (beginning at the upper right corner cownwards) "Chan-Tso," "Yin-Yang" "Pan-Fen," Provisional Issue, Silver-Ocean, Half-Candarian. The compound "Ying-Yang" Silver Ocean means money from over the ocean i. e. foreign money, as the Mexican dollar. Of course on the higher values we do not find Pan-Fen; but Yi-Fen, Erh-Fen, etc. Of Scott's Nos. 44 to 49 I have no specimens and the cut in the catalogue is not plain enough to make out. Kohl, Gibbons, and Bright & Son have them under different numbers. Bright & Son teach no more than Scott, but Kohl and Gibbons illustrate the surcharges separately. There we learn that the stamp is a revenue 3c, and the surcharge is for 1c "To-Chieng-Yu-Ching," Chinese-Empire-Post-Administration in the upper line from right to left, and "Tang-I-Fen" Acting-as-One-Candarian in the second line. For the other values the top line is the same as for this. For the other values, 2, 2 and 4c, the rest of the surcharge is the same as on Scott's Nos. 24 to 29, "Chan-Tso-Yin-Yang-Erh-Fen" (or Sun-Fen-for 4c) Provisional-Issue-Foreign-Money-Two-Candarins. The \$1 has "Tang-I-Ynan," Acting-as-One-Dollar (Mexican). "I" and "Yi" is the same. On the remaining stamps of China there is nothing new, except two new characters denoting money. The character in the upper left corner

of the 20c is "Chto" the tenth part of a "Yuan." This latter word is found on the one dollar (in nearly the same position) and means the Mexican Dollar.

AMOY has one type of stamps only which has in the right hand panel "Hsia-Men-Kiang-Pu" Amoy-official board-works, "Ibsia-Men" (or Moi) might Mean House-door, but stands here for Amoy. "Kimg" is Works, and "Pu" Official Board. The characters in the two upper corners denote the value, "Pan-Hsien" Half-cent, "Yi Hsien" One-Cent, etc. Scott's cut A4 has "Hsia-Men." Amoy twice, once, once in the right hand panel and once in the two upper corners. The numerals, as for instance, "Pau" Half, "Yi" One, "Wee" Five, may now and then differ a little from one another, but they may be easily be made out by the Arabian numerals in the lower corners. On the left hand label we have "Ye-Chung-Chu" Post-Administration-Bureau same as on the stamps of the Chinese Empire.

CHEFOO has two types of stamps. On each there are but two Chinese characters, one in each of the two upper corners. They are the same in both types. The one at the right is "Yen" Smoke, and the one on the left is "T'ai" Tower. Together they give the old name "Yen-T'ai" for Chefoo.

CHINGKIANG has two types of stamps with the inscription on both. In the two upper corners is the value expressed in "Fen," between we read "Chen-Kiang-Kung-Pu" Ching-Kiang Official-Board. Otherwise "Chen" means emporium and Kiang (also pronounced Chiang) river. The surcharge for the due stamps is "Chien-Yin" Deficient-Silver, i. e. postage due.

(Continued.)

That Button Again

By Iberins

THE question of an emblem for the identification of the stamp collecting fraternity is one that has been very much discussed in the leading philatelic publications.

A button or pin by which those who are interested in philately could be identified is undoubtedly a necessity, and will arouse a greater interest in philately. button or pin would not need to be large or with a complicated design, but one easily identified by fellow collectors.

There has been many suggestions made along this line both good and otherwise. The principle difficulty lies in securing a design intended to agree with the collectors of all countries. This is practically impossible as there is no one picture, inscription, or design formed on stamps of all the countries. Therefore, no general design can be used as there is none. My idea is a button about $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in circumference, of some color common to the stamps of all countries. Red for instance, would be a good color because all countries have the color red somewhere on their stamps. To my notion the best idea for a design would be the arms of the country of which the collector is a citizen; around this design could be put an inscription, such as, "By Philately United," or some other motto that would be suitable; at the bottom could be put the name of the country the arms represented or date of first issue of stamps, or initials of society the collector belonged to.

A neat little button along these lines could be gotten up at a cost of \$1.00 or \$1.50, and every collector who bought one would be amply repaid for money invested by new acquaintances made. A method of recognition for the collectors is something needed, therefore let us hear more about it through our periodicals until something is done.

Ewen's Advice

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.

DO not avoid stamps because they appear at first sight speculative or unnecessary. Stamp collectors are not such important personages that stamps are often made for their especial benefit. Even in the case of little islands where the smallness of the population does not seem to warrant the issue of stamps, the cause of such issue is quite likely to be local pride in possessing a postoffice and a desire to adopt the methods of civilization. Collectors forget that even big colonies have small beginnings. For instance, Victoria, the richest of the Australian states, with a population of 1,200,000, was almost unknown 60 years ago. In 1836 the State had a total population 236, exclusive of a few thousand aborigines. In 1837 Melbourne was founded. Thirteen years later stamps were issued, the issue of 1850 being represented by 23 varieties. In 1851 gold was discovered and the colony's era of prosperity set in. When the first stamps were issued, 23 varieties in a year would no doubt have been characterized as too liberal an allowance had there been a specialist to carp. New South Wales 110 varieties in five years is also a very liberal supply for a young colony, but critics are apt to forget that the same facilities do not exist in young colonies of getting the same quality of paper, ink, etc. Why a colony should be dictated to by collectors and told that it may not change the quality of its paper if it finds something more suitable, may not buy a new perforating machine without being assailed with abuse, may not use up old stock by surcharging it with values which render it saleable, we utterly fail to see. When a small colony which can't af-

ford two or three sets of stamps for postal, fiscal, and telegraph, makes one set do, rude remarks are sometimes heard to the effect that the amalgamation has been made to exploit collectors; but it is absurd to suggest such a thing; apart from which it is often much more convenient to have only one set and one series of designs. Our strongest desire is to collect everything without fear or favor.

An International Stamp.

F. E. Halbert, South Berwick, Me.

If reports are true we are to have an International stamp which will frank all letters passing between the countries of the postal union. This would prove to be of a great convenience especially to philatelists, for then he could make remittances to foreign countries more easily and the receiver would not have to have the stamps discounted to realize on them. Again it would encourage correspondence, as one could enclose return postage and his stamps would be honored by the officials of the postoffice department.

The experiment is to be made between the United States and Canada, and then the rest are expected to fall in line. The greatest obstacle to the success of the scheme is to produce a design that would be acceptable to all nations represented by the Postal Union. The matter of engraving would be another source of trouble, but that would adjust itself in time.

We understand that the matter is beyond the agitation stage and government officials are working on the matter. The outcome of this is watched with interest.

You'd think it was a crazy farmer who only milked his cows once a year—some advertisers are just the same, White's Sayings.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the pages of those below, are requested to send a copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst gebeten ein Tauschexemplar regelmassig an den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont pries d'envoyer un exemplaire en echange a l'adresse sous-donnee.

Deseame recibir esemplares de cambio de las publicaciones filatelicas estranjerris a la adresa enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149, Manchester, Wis, U S A

Review of Foreign Papers.

The first item to be reviewed is neither foreign nor a paper. The Colonial Stamp Company of Chicago has favored me with a copy of their new Royal Postage Stamp Album, intended for the stamps of the British Empire. I have seen quite a few albums of both domestic and foreign production and must say that in point of mechanical production this album easily ranks with the best. The binding is tasteful, the paper is good, the arrangement and appearance of the pages neat, as they are printed from engraved plates. There are no illustrations, the various issues being so clearly described as to render them superfluous. The distinctive feature of the new album is its simplification, all surcharges being omitted with very few exceptions which cannot properly be considered surcharges, such as the cent issue of British Columbia. I, myself, to be sure, do not coincide with this view of surcharges as an abomination and plead guilty to gathering such of them as I can get, but on the other hand I must applaud the intention of simplifying the collector's task. It is bound to come and the advocates of simplification can well afford to

leave surcharges out; there is still enough left. The new venture is certainly worthy of commendation, especially to beginners, and I must emphatically protest against Mr. Nankivell's ridicule as launched against the new album. It proves nothing and the question of how to simplify the collectors task is one of vital interest to our hobby, so that it is worth being discussed without rancor.—The price of the new album may be found in our advertising columns and I wish it a large sale.

Of special interest in view of the flood of Columbian issues during the last year is a long letter from Medellin, the capital of Antioquia, in No. 109 of the Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica Argentina.

I quote from it as follows:

"In Columbia there are two classes of postoffices: the National Post Office and the Departmental Post Office. The National Government carries on the international service and an interior service—Several Departments: Antioquia, Bolivar, Boyaca, Cundinamarca, Santandar and Tolima, with their own resources, without aid from the National Government, support an interior service * * * The mail routes in the Department of Panama, notwithstanding that their stamps appear to be departmental, are supported by the National Government.

(This will explain the surcharging of these stamps by the new Republic of Panama; they were really confiscated federal property. If they had been departmental property, there would have been little use in surcharging them, as the ownership then would not have changed. Note of the Reviewer.)

"The departmental posts are specially intended for the interior serv-

“ice of the respective departments
 “and mail for other departments or
 “for foreign parts cannot be mailed
 “at the offices of these posts. Cer-
 “tain cities form an exception, where
 “there is no National postoffice and
 “where such correspondence can be
 “mailed franked with either National
 “or Departmental stamps; such mail
 “is then received by the nearest Na-
 “tional office and sent to its destina-
 “tion.” (The same applies vice versa.
 Note of the Reviewers.) * * * * *

“During the last civil war the Nation-
 “al Posts were almost entirely sus-
 “pended and only those lines running
 “from Bogota to the capitals of the
 “Departments were still working—
 “even these with great irregularity.
 “In view of this the Government of
 “the Department of Antioquia took
 “over the control of all national lines
 “in its territory, converting them into
 “departmental lines and receiving
 “from them a large increase of cor-
 “respondence, which produced the
 “necessity of increasing its stamp is-
 “sues, which were large and numer-
 “ous. This was the motive of the
 “new issues of Antioquia and not
 “speculation, as might have been
 “believed.”

“The Central administration at Me-
 “dellin made an issue for national
 “service the past year, which was in
 “part catalogued in the 1903 Scott;
 “but with unpardonable neglect they
 “have multiplied varieties, printing
 “the same value on papers of differ-
 “ent colors and in different inks.
 “This issue was imperforate; it has
 “since been perforated by sewing ma-
 “chine at various postoffices, and by
 “private persons * * * .”

“For the same reason as the Na-
 “tional Office at Medellin saw itself
 “in need of stamps * * * Carta-
 “gena, Barranquilla, Rio Hacha,
 “Jumaco etc. did the same; those of

“Cucuta are mere speculation.”

“I give an enumeration of the
 “stamps last issued at Medellin:

ANTIOQUIA ISSUE OF JUNE 1902.

“ 1 centavo rose	150,000
“ 2 “ blue	185,000
“ 3 “ green	110,000
“ 4 “ chocolate	105,000
“ 5 “ red	100,000
“ 10 “ lilac	50,000
“ 20 “ green	50,000
“ 30 “ carmine	50,000
“ 40 “ blue	50,000
“ 50 centavos brown on yellow	20,000
“ 1 peso violet	10,000
“ 2 peso rose	10,000
“ 5 peso blue	10,000
“ 2½ centavos violet (Late “ letter)	30,000
“ 5 centavos black on rose “ (A. R.)	20,000
“ 10 centavos violet on bluish “ (Registered)	50,000
“ The 1 centavo rose exists on laid “ paper; there were 52 sheets of this— “ a total of 2600 stamps. Of the 1c “ imperforate 4 sheets (200 stamps) “ have been seen, also 2 sheets with- “ out one vertical perforation. With “ the error 3c blue there were printed “ 1613 sheets, there being that many “ errors.”	

ISSUE OF DECEMBER 1902.

“ Soon a new printing had to be made.
 “ The ten cent stamps being out, a
 “ new printing was made from another
 “ stone in sheets of 24 stamps, as
 “ the other stone was broken. Paper
 “ and color as before, only one hundred
 “ sheets, 2400 stamps, 2 sheets im-
 “ perforate.”

ISSUE OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1903

“ As some values of the former issue
 “ ran out, a new one was made on
 “ poorer paper than before and with
 “ two stamps in changed colors, the
 “ paper for one and the ink for the
 “ others, similar to the former, having

"run out. The printing was done from the same stones, except the 10c for which a new one had to be made. In this stone the lithographer, it is not known whether inadvertently or purposely, included one transfer with smaller head than the others. Following are the numbers:

"1c blue, 60,000.
 "2c violet, 200,000.
 "3c green, 200,000.
 "4c chocolate, 200,000.
 "5c red, 200,000
 "10c lilac, 200,000.
 "20c green, 100,000.
 "2½c violat (too late) 200,000.
 "5c greenish black on white (A. R.) 200,000.
 "Of the 3c green some sheets are minus one vertical perforation. Of the 10c with small transfer 2381 sheets were printed; there are thus that many of these smaller stamps.

(I dont remember seeing this error mentioned anywhere hertofore.—Note of Reviewer.)

COLOMBIA, MEDELLIN ISSUE OCT. 1900.

"1c green on yellow, 200,000.
 "2c rose on rose, 300,000.
 "5c blue on bluish, 100,000.
 "10c brown on yellow, 200,000.
 "20c violet on mauve, 100,000.
 "50c red on grey 50,000.
 "1 peso black on yellow, 25,000.
 "5 peso black on bluish, 10,000.
 "10 peso brown on mauve, 10,000.
 "10 centavos, black on white (registered, 5,000.
 "Most values exist imperforate or or part perforate only.

Don Quixote, Miguel Cervantes' immortal masterpiece, was first published at Madrid, in 1605. The occasion is to be properly celebrated in Spain and La Revue Postale informs us in its January number that a special set of stamps is to be issued by Spain in honor of the event. It sounds rather

improbable, but no doubt such an issue would prove a tremendous success.

A new issue of stamps for Belgium is in contemplation. They will bear the portrait of the King. The 10, 25 and 35 centimes will be typographed, as now, but the 50c, 1 fr aud 2 fr will be engraved in tailedouce. The stamps are to be issued at the time of the Liege Exposition, but are not to be a special issue for the exposition.

No. 37 of Szekula Briefmarken-Verkehr is the first one of our foreign contemporaries to illustrate the designs of the new Italian issue. If the stamps are really to look like the illustrations, they will be veritable horrors, the best engravings could do nothing with such designs. I am afraid that the much heralded new issue will again exemplify the fact that one can be a great artist and yet not know how to design a postage stamp. Every new attempt of the kind makes one like Uncle Sam's Inbels all the better. The same paper illustrates the new design for the golden values of the Dutch Indies. It resembles that of the lower values; in the upper spandrels there are the figures of Commerce and Industry, in the lower ones emblems of navigation. The painting of these high values was to begin in February.

Senf Brothers, Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal, in No. 601 gives an interesting illustrated review of the issues of 1903, especially of the flood of British Colonials. Our new series of stamps receives special words of commendation.—In No. 602 there is an interesting article on Nicaragua and its stamps. I quote the following in explanation of the date 11 de Julio 1903 on the late issue of Nicaragua with the portrait of President Santos Zelaya:

“ Zelaya ascended the presidential chair in 1893. The last president before him was Dr. R. Sacaza, who was elected in 1889. In April 1893 a revolution broke out, deposing Sacaza and developing into bloody civil war, in which Honduras interfered. Zelaya was at the head of the Liberal party and on July 11, 1893 defeated the Conservatives decisively on the mountain range called the Cuesta, which lies between the cities of Managua and Leon along the lake of Managua. Zelaya then appointed himself president. He was not generally acknowledged until 1894, after the war with Honduras was ended, but that he dates his rule from his victory on the Cuesta is shown by the fact that he has placed it's date on the new issue of stamps. The I. B. J. now also mentions the Antioquian error with the small head which I have quoted above from the Argentine Revista; it says that the errors were removed from the sheets and destroyed. (Of course with a few convenient exceptions).

In No. 3 of the Austrian Journal of Philately the publishers reproduce some correspondence which they had with the Commonwealth Postoffice Department relative to the sale of postage due stamps, lightly postmarked, by the Department. They wanted the practice discontinued, but the post master general did not see it that way and he points to the United States as absolutely forbidding the sale of such stamps; still the Australian collectors do not seem to appreciate the favor he is doing them. The publishers run foul of Mr. Wetherill's article on varieties of the 1891 half-penny of New South Wales. They call his work a waste of effort, as the sheet consisted not of 120 stamps as described by him, but 240, in 4 panes

of 60. Besides not a few of the varieties are merely due to poor impression and not constant. (The article appeared in the American Journal of Philately).

The question of what are really Commonwealth stamps is still being debated in Australia with unabated vigor. An American correspondent thinks that, while the contention that all stamps in use on and issued since March 1st, 1901 are Commonwealth stamps is no doubt historically correct, still the general collector will continue to class the stamps in use during the bookkeeping period with the respective states, as Scott's catalogue is doing.

From No. 5 of the Australian Philatelist I quote the following relative to some of the South Australian O. S. stamps:

“ In 1890 twenty copies of the 5sh rose perf. 10 were overprinted O. S. in black type of which only two copies are known to have been postally used “ In May 1891, 60 copies of the 2sh 6d and 5sh perf. 10 were overprinted with O. S. in thin letters, wide spaced “ 14¾ mm apart. These were supplied to the stamp issuer, but they were only used from time to time by the G. P. O. Some eight copies of the 2sh 6d and nine of the 5sh are known in their used state. There has been only the one printing; if there had been more other perforations besides “ 10 would be found.

These ought to become rarities, if smallness of supply counts for anything. The same paper states that the postage bill of the Government Life Insurance Department of New Zealand for the year 1902 amounted to £1197 14sh 2d. “ As this actually represents the stamps used by this department, it no doubt will account for the scarcity of some of the valves in use.



Revenue Dep't.

Conducted by
Charles A. Nast.

AS promised in my last, I give here what is known as the monogram surcharges on the 98 proprietaries of the J. Elwood Lee Co. The monogram of the letters J. E. L. and the the word Co. It was always printed in red ink, no cancellation being known in any other color. The rarest stamp of this class is the 1 cent green. I have never seen but one copy and it now reposes in the collection of a well known New Yorker.

The year date is generally added above the monogram, but by unexpected twists and turns in feeding the presses these dates sometimes appear at the bottom of the design. Then again as they were printed in sheets, there are some minor varieties of type and position of the date and sometimes it is entirely absent, the printer having forgotten to set up the type. Whether this monogram was printed first, and then the date afterwards, as suggested by some one is utterly absurd. The monogram no doubt was stereotyped sufficiently often to make up a plate the size of the sheet and my own opinion is that the dates, except in a few instances, was also stereotyped with the design—all in one.

However, to note an exception it will only be necessary to list one series of the $\frac{1}{8}$ cent green of the year 1899. This occurs with the date above the design; date below; date to left of center; and no date at all; making in all five distinct and very interesting varieties.

Now a word as to these cancellations with the surcharge inverted. A series

of these stamps with the date 1900 are known and they were sold in blocks of 4 o. g. by a well known Boston firm. They guarantee that they were not deliberately printed upside down, but that it was a genuine error made in feeding the presses. It may be so. It is a fact, however, that no used specimens of the inverted surcharge have ever been found in any packages.

Here follows the list. Red surcharge:

$\frac{1}{8}$ c—1898, 1899, 1900, 1901.

$\frac{1}{4}$ c— “ “ “

$\frac{3}{8}$ c— “ “ “

$\frac{5}{8}$ c—1898, 1899, 1900, 1901.

1c—1898.

$1\frac{1}{4}$ c—1900, 1901.

2c—1898, 1900.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ c—1899, 1900.

5c 1899, 1900, 1901.

Inverted surcharges of the year 1900 only: $\frac{1}{8}$ c, $\frac{1}{4}$ c, $\frac{3}{8}$ c, $\frac{5}{8}$ c, $1\frac{1}{4}$ c, 2c, $2\frac{1}{2}$ c, 5c.

THE CHAS. FLETCHER PROVISIONALS.

These contain the words “The Centaur Co.” in the upper left hand corner, then the signature of “Chas. Fletcher, Prest.” diagonally across the stamp and date underneath. With the exception of two instances they were printed in red ink. The inverted surcharges are very, very few and extremely scarce. I never saw but one on the $\frac{5}{8}$ cent blue. One other value I think has been reported, but not being certain I cannot list it here.

$\frac{1}{4}$ c—7-1-'98, black ink. $1\frac{1}{4}$ c '98 blue black ink. $\frac{5}{8}$ c 7-1-'98, red ink inverted surcharge. There are also two hand stamps in an eastern collection but I have no details. All the rest are found printed in red ink.

$\frac{5}{8}$ c 7-1-'98, $\frac{5}{8}$ c 8-1-'98, $\frac{5}{8}$ c '98, $\frac{5}{8}$ c '99, 1c 7-1-'98, $1\frac{1}{4}$ c 7-1-'98, $1\frac{1}{4}$ c '98, $1\frac{1}{4}$ c '99.

The future of revenue stamps is very promising. Many stamp collectors who have heretofore neglected them, preferring to decorate their albums with foreign stamps altogether, are falling in line and collecting revenues

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY ?

Conducted by
L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

157.—WHAT IS A MEAT INSPECTION STAMP?—It is merely a label which the meat inspector puts on boxes or barrels which he has inspected. It is $3\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ inches (more or less), perforated on one or more sides and bears the inscription "Meat Inspection Stamp, Act of March 13, 1891, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry" besides a number and the signature of the secretary. To my knowledge it does not represent any fee or value and consequently does not belong under the heading of fiscal or revenue stamps. I do not know whether more than one type has been used. It has no philatelic value.

WHY IS THE PORTRAIT OF KING WILLIAM III OF NETHERLANDS ON THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE STAMPS OF LUXEMBURG?—Because King William III of Netherlands was also the Grand Duke of Luxemburg. When he died the Grand Duchy passed to Adolphus, Duke of Nassau, while Holland passed to King Williams daughter, the present Queen Wilhelmina.

WHY HAS LUXEMBURG SUCH ODD VALUES OF STAMPS AS $12\frac{1}{2}$ AND $37\frac{1}{2}$ CENTIMES?— $12\frac{1}{2}$ c was the equivalent of 1 silbergroschen, the single rate in German-Austrian Postal Union, which Luxemburg joined in 1852. $37\frac{1}{2}$ c is equal to 3 silbergroschen. Why these values should be continued to the present time, I fail to see, or can it be for the benefit (?) of stamp collectors.

160.—WHAT DO THE MONOGRAMS AM AND ME ON THE ISSUE 1882 OF LUXEM-

BURG MEAN?—They stand for the designer, A. Mark, and the engraver, E. Mouchan.

161.—WHAT CATALOGUE IS THE BEST FOR A BEGINNER?—The one he can get easiest and quickest. Mekeel's will be good after it can be had, but Scott's is here and its good too. In fact any catalogue is good for the beginner, but the main thing for him is to get it quick, and use it often. If it be Scott's or Kohl's or Gibbon's, or any other, the beginner need not bother with the minor varieties, but simply follow the main numbers, he'll be all right.

162.—From Mekeel's Weekly I see that Mr. G. W. Pepper, New York City offers a "full line of Foreign Revenue catalogues." It would be well to ask for his list, or to ask for further information regards these catalogues from him.

163.—It seems that in some cases the margins of the plates failed to get ink into the plate number inscription, and the result is a blank. Now and then a sheet is found which has no plate number on one margin, while on the other it is all right. Every pane of 100 stamps should have 2 impressions of the plate number and 2 sides (the inner ones) without any margin. I have not seen any that were altogether without plate numbers, but if the impression may be left imprinted in one place by accident, why not as easily in two?

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE LETTERS "ON H. M. S." AL FOUND ON STAMPS OF INDIA? It does not mean "On mail ship." The inscription stands for "On Her Majesty's Service" or stamps used during Queen Victoria's reign, and now since King Edward sways the scepter for "On His Majesty's service."

164. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A THIRD AND A FOURTH CLASS POST OFFICE?—I quote from Postal Laws and Regulations, 1902: "The first class shall embrace all those whose annual salaries are \$3000.00 or more. The second class shall embrace all those whose annual salaries are less than \$3000.00 but not less than \$2000.00. The third class shall embrace all those whose annual salaries are less than \$2000.00 but not less than \$1000.000. The fourth class shall embrace all postmasters whose annual compensation, exclusive of their commissions on the money order business of their office amounts to less than \$1000.00. Class 1 to 3 are appointed by the president of the United states; class 4 is appointed by the postmaster general. The first three classes are called "presidential" and receive salaries according to the gross receipts of their office, the lowest for a third class office being \$1900.00. The fourth class postmaster gets his compensation upon the basis of box rent, stamps cancelled on matter actually mailed at his office, and amount received from waste paper, etc., (commission on money orders are excluded, on special delivery stamps there is no commission.) If the receipts of a fourth class office are \$50.00 or less for three months, the postmaster gets all; if more, he gets 60 per cent, 50 per cent, or 40 per cent, according to the amount of his receipts, but he can never get more than \$1000 a year, unless his office is raised into the third class.

165. WHAT ARE "NIXIES" IN THE MAILS. Letters or parcels with insufficient address, or without any address whatever. The word "Nix" is probably a corruption of the German "Nichts," meaning nothing, i. e. nothing to show the proper destination.

tion.

166. WHAT ARE "STAR ROUTES" IN THE MAIL SERVICE? Routes which are let out to the lowest bidder for carrying the mails without designation for the mode of conveyance. Thus, one star route may convey the mail on horseback, another by dog sledge, by stage coach, etc. They are principally in new and unsettled districts.

167 WILL THERE BE ANY PHILATELIC EXHIBITS AT THE WORLDS FAIR AT ST. LOUIS THIS YEAR?

168. WHAT IS THE USE OF COLLECTING STAMPS IN PAIRS, BLOCKS, OR STRIPS? In regard to stamps which were engraved or drawn separately, so that each specimen differed some from all others on the plate or stone, pairs, blocks, or stripes are of the preatest importance for the reconstruction of whole sheets. Non-perforated as well as part perforated stamps can be proved as such only, when in pairs, etc. The tel-bache stamps can be recognized in this condition only. In other cases the perforation between pairs is much better preserved than in single stamps. In case of used stamps, the part obliterated in one stamp may be clean and plain in the other one. There is more display in a collection of pairs and it is more difficult to make than one of singles.

130. The J. M. Bartels Co., of Boston, Mass., announce the 3rd edition of their envelope catalogue. The book is to be enlarged so as to comprise all U. S., and U. S. Colonies envelopes, and be a treatise with price list. Why the edition should be limited to 250 copies and the price be \$5.00 and \$2.50 respectively, I fail to understand. I would rather see the edition four or five times as large and the price smaller by half. Perhaps, if enough orders are sent, the publishers will change his mind.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL AND OTHERWISE

MALTA has a stamp bearing the picture of the shipwreck of St. Paul. An account of it may be found in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter xxvii.

On the stamps of Crete is the picture of St. George slaying the Dragon, symbolical of the Christian stamping out sin.

The St. Louis Exposition stamps will be almost twice as large as the stamps of the current series. The portraits will not occupy any more space than they do now.

It is not generally known that the portrait depicted on Laird stamp is that of Harriet Hubbard Ayer, who has recently died.

Notices have recently been sent out in regard to a proposed international philatelic exhibition to be held at Berlin, September, 1904.

By a recent ruling of the British postoffice department, postmasters will no longer be allowed to give cash for stamps when they are handed in over the counter.

One of the London stamp companies will print their auction catalogues on paper which was prepared for the South African Republic before the Boer war. The paper is watermarked "Z. A. R."

At the last meeting of the Springfield Stamp Club a dividend of \$2 was

voted to each active resipient member to be used for the purchase of stamps, stamp literature and the like.

A stamp dealer in one of the eastern states is now putting packets of stamps in the different college colors.

Hereafter British Somaliland will be known by the name of Somaliland Protectorate. A new series of stamps similar to the East Africa and Uganda Protectorate stamps will soon be issued.

The newest thing in stamp novelties is cuffbuttons. It is quite the fad now to wear cuff buttons which are set with postage stamps.

The 6 cent New Zealand shows the bird commonly known as the "Kiwi," its scientific name being *Apteryx Mantelli*. It is the lowest form bird which exists, but is so scarce that scientists are happy to get a specimen in any condition. It is absolutely without wings or tail; its legs are short and stubby; and the legs are used for digging. The body covering is a cross between hair and feathers. They can develop great speed and put up a desperate fight when attacked. A peculiar trait is that during the day they conceal themselves under rocks or roots of trees, and when at rest resemble to some extent a hedgehog when coiled up.

After a collector gets fairly well started he should give a part of his time to the study of the secret marks on stamps. Many of the earlier issues especially those of the German States have secret marks. They were used to prevent counterfeiting. It was quite a surprise to collectors a few years ago to discover that a whole issue of United States stamps bore secret marks. When space will permit the editor will be glad to tell about some of the secret marks on United States stamps and just where to look to find them.



By ROY FARRELL GREENE, A S of C C

Dr. Merrill, curator of geology of the National Museum, returned not long ago from a trip to Montana and the northwest, where he gathered one of the most interesting collections that has reached the Museum for many years. Most collectors have heard of the petrified forest of Arizona, but few are aware of the existence of one in Montana of equal extent and in many ways more remarkable than the one in the southwest. The Arizona forest is peculiar for the reason that entire trees and logs have been changed to agate, and in this connection it may be said that it is by no means unusual to find wood converted to agate, chalcedony, silicate and quartz, but this Montana forest visited by the Washington curator shows trees and logs changed to opal; and opalized wood is a very rare thing.

Dr. Merrill brought back with him to be placed on exhibition in the National Museum at Washington, a large number of specimens consisting of sections of logs, and limbs, in many of which the grain of the wood is discernible. The colors are white, bluish, smoky, black, and in every case translucent. The fact that the wood has been changed to opal is apparent at first glance, the beautiful coloring and sheen of the opal being unmistakable. Dr. Merrill also obtained some of the largest crystals of smoky quartz ever

seen in the museum. One measures two feet in length, and another which the doctor was unable to carry with him, but left to be shipped to Washington later, was even larger.

An interesting collection of dental tools, the history of which can be traced back more than two hundred years, has been presented to the Bucks County (Penn.) Historical Society, by Isaac H. Hall. The instruments were the property of Mahon H. Hall, the father of the donor, who died forty years ago at the age of eighty years.

W. A. Good of Harrisonburg, Virginia, writing to the editor of this department a few weeks ago said: "A curio and relic search was made in this locality recently by me, and I had the pleasure of finding a very fine deposit of 'Iceland Spar,' which is so highly prized by collectors. The find was made on a high, stony ridge, in red clay soil, the outward appearance of the spar being very crude, but when broken open the specimens separated in ice-like blocks of a dainty glistening hue, and a beautiful parallelogram shape. Another find on the same trip was some showy quartz crystals which I have not been able to classify. These have a brownish hue and beautiful transparent colors on the interior, resembling the ordinary

highly-finished glass marbles. These crystals are much prized by collectors here, but unfortunately they seem to be somewhat rare, and has not been found to my knowledge at but a single point in the county. This locality having been the scene of many bloody struggles during the late Civil War, it offers an exceptionally fine chance for the finding of war relics. My next search will be for specimens along this line." Let us hear from Bro. Good again.

Another letter which the Curio Editor was pleased to receive a few weeks ago was one from Dr. H. Schumacher, of Walcott, Iowa, who advised me of a find he recently made which seems to prove conclusively that man existed on this continent prior to the glacial period. He sent a group of pen-drawings of the specimens found by him, and I wish it were possible for me to reproduce these sketches here, for they picture the stone very nicely. Mr. Schumacher's descriptive letter is too long for me to reproduce here, so I have arranged it into the form of an essay, and it is printed elsewhere in this issue. I trust that our good friend Warren K. Moorehead or some other acknowledged authority will communicate with Mr. Schumacher and avail themselves of his offer to send the stone for inspection.

A collection of coins and medals recently bequeathed to the Belgian Royal Library by the late M. Charles van Schoor possesses rare interest for numismatists. The distinguishing feature of the collection is that it is restricted exclusively to papal issues, of which there are 2,750 pieces. Of these 1,450 are coins; 248 in gold, 1,060 in silver, and 240 in copper and bronze. The other 1,300 are medals; 26 in gold, 630 in silver, and 644 in copper. In issues dating from the 12th century the

collection is especially rich, very few pieces being missing.

Prof. Charles Basketville of the Museum of Natural History, New York, and Prof. Dana as well as the Tiffany's, have been examining, testing and experimenting with a new gem stone which has lately been discovered by Dr. George F. Krunz, the famous mineralogist, and which has been named, in honor of him, Krunzite. The new stone is to be classed with what are known as fancy gems, such as topaz and tanzanite; is of a peculiar rose-lilac hue, and is said to be native to parts of California, although the first of the precious specimens came from Mexico. Some of the experiments made with this new gem-stone have produced peculiar results, as for instance, when exposed to the ultra-violet ray the stone refused to become fluorescent, but when exposed to the X-ray it became so luminous that when placed in a dark room it photographed itself on a sensitive plate. Krunzite has already taken its place among the gems of the world.

Ray L. Jewell of Stony Ford, Colusa County, Calif., one of our Curio Society members writes me that a farmer living near the town "While digging post holes some weeks ago found an old sword the handle of which had rotted off but which was otherwise in good condition. There is no date on it at all. On the hand guard is a figure of Liberty, seated, holding a staff upright, with a cap on the staff. On her left is a shield having thereon fourteen stars. On her right, and a little below two figures appear, seeming to be those of men fighting with swords. To the right of these figures and above is a flying eagle with four arrows in talons. At the top over the eagle and extending to the left over the head liberty, in a circle is the mot-

to E Pluribus Unum. Under that, forming a long, narrow oval are fourteen stars. The end of the sword's handle is formed in the shape of an eagle's head and neck with the beak open. The guard is just one side. On the handle side of the hand guard appear the Roman numerals "X V I," seeming to have been scratched there with a knife. The blade being extremely rusty no marks could be distinguished on it. The sword was found on an old Indian Village site, or "ranchoree," and was thirteen inches below the surface. The farmer has already had an offer of \$100 for the unique weapon." Have any of the WEST'S readers who are familiar with old arms any idea as to whose sword this could have been and how it got there?

W. H. Wright, head of the Lick Observatory expedition, now in Chili, reports the discovery of a remarkably perfect specimen of the ichthyosaurus. South America has never been known previously to furnish any specimens of these prehistoric silurians so valuable to science. This fossil was discovered near Coquimbo, Chili, and the specimen has been unearthed in almost perfect condition.

The Carnavelet Museum in Paris contains a collection of pens which, while interesting from a Connoisseur's point of view as works of art, are no less attractive to the curio collector. Every time a sovereign visits the town hall in Paris he is begged to sign his name in the visitors' book, and for this purpose a richly ornamented pen is handed the royal visitor. These pens are, of course, used only the once, when they are laid away in the museum, properly labeled with the name of the monarch who used it, the date and the occasion.

If those who are interested in archaeology will drop a card to The Robert Clarke Company, East Fourth street, Cincinnati, Ohio, they may obtain a prospectus concerning Prof. Warren K. Moorehead's forthcoming encyclopedia, "The Stone Age." This work will comprise two volumes and will illustrate more than 4,000 different specimens. It will be the greatest work on archaeology ever issued.

Some Huge Coins.

It is said that the largest gold coin now in circulation is the gold ingot, or "lool" of Aham, a French colony in Eastern Asia. It is a flat, round gold piece, and on it is written in Indian ink its value, which is about forty-five pounds. The next sized coin to this valuable but extremely awkward one is the "obang," Japan, which is worth about ten pounds, and next comes the "benda," of Ashantee, which represents a value of about nine pounds. The California fifty dollar gold piece is worth about the same the "benda." The heaviest silver coin in the world also belongs to Anam, where the silver ingot is worth about three pounds.

An advertisement cannot always be depended on to get the customer, It will bring the inquiry and then the advertiser must set about making a customer of the inquirer. To do this there must be a proper combination of goods, price, and salesman. The advertisement has served its purpose if, through it buyer and seller have been brought into communication. The business relationship must yet be established. If the inquirer be not converted into a customer, it can hardly be said, in justice, that the ad did not pay. It paid, but there was something lacking in the combination of goods, price and salesman.

Stamp Collectors Association.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS.

President—W. H. Barnum, 661 Rose Bldg. Cleveland, Ohio

Vice President—L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

Secretary—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Illinois

Treasurer—W. A. Zuehlke, Appleton, Wisconsin

Sales Supt—H. C. Crowell, Caxton Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.

Official Organ—The WEST, Superior, Neb.

FELLOW MEMBERS, S. C. A.

Since addressing you two months ago, I have appointed as manager of the Auction Department Mr. A. D. Blair, Jr., of Elmira, N. Y. and as Librarian Mr. Albert F. Distelhorst, Dorchester, Wis.

To make these departments of benefit necessitates the active co-operation of all the members and I trust each of these gentlemen will receive the same.

The Sales Department is receiving every attention from Mr. Crowell, the Superintendent, and members in patronizing same will be pleased with the results.

W. H. BARNUM, President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

NEW MEMBERS

70. Jose Gutierrez, Hernandez, Santo Fomas, Cuba

71. A McKechnie, Ottawa, Ont, Can

72. F J Martin, West Bay City, Mich

73. R R Bogert, 68 Tribune Bldg, New York, N Y

74. Homer Collins, M D, Duluth, Minn

75. Wendall Wheeler, Latham, Ill

76. Perry Wade Fuller, Wake Forest, N C

77. Minnie McCannahan, Findlay, O

78. W B Bartley, Fort Francis, Ont, Can

79. Mrs W H Todd, Hotel Vendome, New York, N Y

80. C Wesley, Price, Truso, N S, Can

81. Stedman Bent, Overbrook, Pa

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

82. G F White, Preston Hollow, N Y, fruit exporter, age 50, ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm

83. Arthur Charles Ballard, 225-4th St, Baraboo, Wis, stamp dealer, age 19, ref

S E Moisant, P A Ballard

84. Kames C Mills, Pennington Gap, Va, bookkeeper, age 40, Ref S E Moisant, J W Nebruns

85. Walter G Boebinger, 904 Vine St, Cincinnati, Ohio, numismatist, age 23, ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm

86. B L Voorhees, Blue Island, Ill, insurance, age 21, ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm

87. LeRoy Hetherington, Kankakee, Ill, collector, age 19, ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm

88. John Sohn, Deadwood, S D, shoe business, age 33, ref S E Moisant, H B DeSelm

89. Joseph Saymon, 12 W 117th St, New York, N Y, clerk, age 18, ref S E Moisant, A Herbst

90. William H Field, 749 Giddings Ave, Cleveland, Ohio, clerk, age 36, ref H C Crowell, W H Barnum

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

33. Oney K Carstarphen from P O Box 734, Denver, Colo. to 1440 Broadway, New York City

The society is growing, the influx of new members is only an encouragement to strive for more. I want to see two hundred members on the roll before the convention in August. Of course you cannot expect me to get enough members myself to make this number, but will not the other officers and members help me in my endeavor to reach the two hundred mark before the convention. We now have ninety members and applicants. To reach the two hundred mark we must have 110 more. I will pledge myself to bring in fifty of these at least. I will leave it to the balance of the society (ninety members and officers) to bring the other sixty members.

Will you, officers and members of the Stamp Collector's Association assist me in my endeavor to increase the membership of this organization from ninety members to two hundred before August 15, 1904? The society is ours and our

interests are the same and is it not as much to your interest as it is to mine to see that the society stands as near to the top as possible? The answer of you all, will be the same, I am sure. Then, let us all go to work.

Taking it for granted that I have the assistance of you all, send to me for some application blanks, stating how many you want, and see that you do your share toward getting 110 new members which mean an average of only eighteen applications each month.

Again earnestly soliciting your support and thanking you in advance, I remain

Yours very truly,

SHIRLEY E. MOISANT, Secy.

To the Officers and Members of the Stamp Collectors' Association:

I beg herewith to submit my report as treasurer, for the period ending Jan. 30, 1904:

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand per last report...	\$ 7.50
Nov. 2, 1903, Received for dues...	6.00
Dec. 9, " " " " ...	6.50
Jan. 30, 1904, " " " " ...	10.50
Total Receipts.....	\$50.50

DISBURSEMENTS

Oct. 20, 1904, Postage for Secy	\$1.50
Dec. 3, 1903 Paid for Official Organ	2.51
" 3, " Postage and Exchange for Treasurer.....	.45
" 9, " Postage for Secy.....	3.00
Jan. 8, 1904, Paid for membership cards.....	1.25
" 30, " Paid for application blanks.....	4.50
" 30, " Postage for Secy.....	4.61
Total disbursements	\$17.82

Total receipts.....	\$30.50
Total disbursements	\$17.82

Balance on hand Jan. 30, 1904... \$12.68

Respectfully submitted,
WM. H. ZUEHLKE, Treas.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Weigel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1802 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Department of Mineralogy — Forrest Gaines Glendive, Mont.

Department of Conchology (Marine, Atlantic Division)—J. Lewis Wheeler, 30 Lenox Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Conchology (Marine Pacific Division)—Chas. Russell Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Conchology (Terrestrial Division)—Charles Russell Orcutt, 365 12th St., San Diego, Cal.

Department of War Relics—A. H. Bailey, Superintendent, Marietta, Ga.

Department of Entomology—Prof. C. Abbott Davis, 131 Elmwood Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Numismatics—E. L. Bangs, 1401 Clarkson St., Baltimore, Md.

Department of Botany—C. R. Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Archaeology—Arthur B. Coover, Superintendent, Roxabell, O.

Department of Birds and Mammals—Department of Geology—F. A. Brown, East Peru, Iowa.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents; annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month. The secretary will furnish application blanks.

All honest collectors, whatever be their chosen branch of collecting, except stamps, are invited to join. We do not solicit stamp collectors as members as there are so many good philatelic societies now in existence, but collectors of stamps who collect along other lines also are invited to become members.

Free Identification Bureau for naming and classifying shells, minerals, fossils, coins, etc., for members only, in charge of a competent superintendent, will examine and name doubtful specimens submitted to them by members. A list of superintendents is given above, with whom members can communicate direct.

Many other benefits accrue to collectors through membership. Address the Secretary for an application blank and fuller details or write to the President or any of the following members of the Recruit Bureau for blanks and information: Howard E. Bishop, Sayre, Penn.; F. G. Hillman, New Bedford, Mass.; Basil G. Hamilton, Moose Jaw Association, Ontario, Canada; A. W. Conner, 640 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.; Oswald A. Bauer, Piermont, N. Y.; W. G. McLain, Edison, Ohio; W. C. Aiken, Angwin, Cal.; Archibald Crozier, 810 W. 5th St., Wilmington, Del.

Fellow Members: I herewith submit to you my report for February. It

is anything but a flattering one to make when you take a look at the long list of delinquent members, and wonder why it is that so many can not or do not remit the sum of \$.50 for their annual dues. Can it be that this amount is not forthcoming, or that you are not getting fifty cents worth of good out of your association with the A. S. C. C.? Surely not; it is merely an oversight or due to neglect in attending small matters. Your President, who is a very busy man, and your Sec'y-Treas., whose time is being taken up by important business matters, are using their valuable time and some finances to promote the interest of the A. S. C. C., but our efforts will soon be in vain unless we have the good will and financial support of the members. This is all we ask in return for our services. Every delinquent member whose number appears in this report will be suspended for the non-payment of dues until such time as they remit their dues to the Sec'y-Treas. and are rein-stated, and during suspension they will not receive any benefits or the official organ, "THE PHILATELIC WEST" from the A. S. C. C. Therefore look up your membership cards and see if YOU ARE NUMBERED AMONG THE DELINQUENTS. Attend to this promptly.

Members of A. S. C. C. Who have paid their dues:—Numbers 1, 3, 11, 21, 26, 41, 55, 61, 62, 63, 64, 76, 78, 101, 102, 103, 104, 106, 119, 128, 134, 146, 170, 172, 173, 176, 177, 182, 185, 186, 189, 224, 232, 244, 259, 267, 268, 271, 275, 282, 312, 325, 327, 328, 331, 336, 345, 347, 348, 349, 350, 380, 385, 404, 420, 423, 440, 442, 443, 468, 469, 474, 475, 476, 480, 482, 486, 491, 496, 498.

All others are delinquents since January 1st., 1904.

I wish to purchase or exchange illustrated envelopes and letter paper of the Civil War.

E. C. Farnsworth, 29 Falmouth St., Portland, Me.

New members:—525, Herman Zuber, Antwerp, O.; 526, Frank L. Groves, Delaware, O.; 527, G. N. Remington, St. Anthony Falls Station, Minneapolis, Minn.; 528, Geo. B. Mair, Broken Bow, Neb.

Applications:—529, R. M. Lane, 25 Grove St., Et. Barrington, Mass.; 530, H. D. Gates, Poultney, Vt.; 531, Edward C. Farnsworth, 29 Falmouth St., Portland, Me.; C. W. Baker, Graniteville, Aiken Co., S. C.; S. P. Odell, Fremont, Mich.; D. M. Merrill, 576 Bradley St., St. Paul, Minn.

Resigned:—Wm. H. Baker, Quincy, Mass.

Wm. Warner, Jr. Sec'y-Treas.

An Ancient Violin **BY F. E. HALBERT**

A gentleman of Boston has in his possession an extremely old, richly carved and inlaid violin which he treasures very highly. In the 16th century the violin was first made in its present form. A form that all our modern science and mechanical ingenuity has failed to improve upon. Another instrument by the same maker but bearing a date four years earlier, 1511, was sold recently for \$15000. So fine and perfect is the inlaying done on the Boston violin that it so closely resembles a painting, one is obliged to examine it very closely to detect the difference. Around the sides are the following words which have not been translated by anyone who has seen it in recent years: "Odilla De Megina. Dey Viltos Ariesy Et Prima." This relic was handed down for centuries as an heirloom by the descendants of a French count named Hugo. The music from this exquisite old violin is wonderfully rich, deep and charming. It awakens the imagination to vivid pictures of an almost forgotten past. There is something awe-inspiring about a good old violin for the older they are the richer and softer the tone.

THE MANTLE OF THE PAST.

By Rev. W. A. Laughlin, Charlotte,
N. Y.

(For "The West.")

Leaving the picturesque village of Lewiston, N. Y., our footsteps press where, centuries ago, the red men fought and conquered, lost and won. Soon the historic Tuscarora reservation is reached and, as we wander over hallowed ground, we endeavor to lift the mantle of the past from mysteries profound. Here and there we observe a few stray skulls, a heap of human bones, records of the fiery Iroquois, the noted warrior host.

Originally these Iroquois—"the Romans of the new world"—consisted of but five nations, or tribes, but early in the eighteenth century the Tuscaroras ran the gauntlet of dangers and oppressions, till eventually reaching the Iroquois they were adopted, thus forming a part of "the six nation confederacy." This famous Iroquois league had for its originator the wise man, Hiawatha.

There was a time—and that is all we know—when this sixth and last family, the Tuscaroras, lived on the banks of the Neuse river. Here the "Oro-give-how-wa" or Tuscaroras, increased in valor, knowledge and skill. Before the discovery of America by Columbus they numbered six towns, having a population of nearly 6,000 souls.

In 1713 through a combination of causes the Tuscaroras were a crushed and vanquished nation. The Oneidas hearing of the disasters of the Tuscaroras, invited them to come to their reserve. Two years later at the general council of the Iroquois league the

Tuscaroras made application to be received into the famous Iroquois confederacy on the ground of a common generic origin, which application was granted. Leaving their cherished homes in North Carolina, they were located in a section of the Oneida's territory between the Unadilla river and the Chenango, and here for about 70 years they enjoyed peace.

During the war of the revolution the Tuscaroras took an active part for the United States. At the close of the war two Tuscarora families went hunting and fishing along the eastern shores of the Niagara river as far as Lewiston. Leaving their canoes, they traveled east up the mountain to a place now called "The Old Sawmill." Family after family followed and this was the beginning of the present Tuscarora reservation.

During a treaty held at Genesee, Ontario county, 1797, the Senecas ceded the country that included the present Tuscarora reserve, but the government reserved and donated to the tribe two square miles of land, to which the Senecas added one square mile, making in all three square miles of fertile land occupied as a Tuscarora reservation.

This reservation is an ideal spot, filled with the music of rushing streams and bird songs. A land where the many cultivated fields attract attention, with their varied crops. Many beautiful homes have been built upon the reserve and a few of their primitive huts still remain, the one in this photograph being over 100 years old.

Nor do these Tuscaroras seem to be content with a mere dream-like existence. Being members of the "Kanon-

sionni," the builders of the long house, they endeavor to keep the western part of the confederacy abreast of the times. As evidences of this they dress and conduct themselves like the whites. Among their effects sewing machines, organs, pianos and bicycles are now rather common. Efficient teachers conduct their schools. The first school was built in 1831. Their temperance society was organized in 1830.

For about 100 years the missionaries have labored among the tribe with great success. The Baptists and Presbyterians have each erected handsome churches.

The great center is the council house, where the chiefs discuss the affairs of the tribe. In this council house a convention is held annually, delegates being present from the entire six tribes.

An Iroquois council or "condolence," as it is sometimes called, occupies three days and delegates are present from all six nations—the Mohawk, the Onondaga, the Seneca, the Oneida, the Cayuga and the Tuscarora. The opening ceremonies are unique, almost indescribable. Sometimes the council is called to elect vacancies in the sachems, which election is preceded by a dolorous banquet for the deceased. At the setting of the sun supper is served and grace is said in a high, shrill key, ending in a prolonged and monotonous sound. Dancing follows after supper, two varieties of dancing being introduced, the trotting dance and the fish dance. In these dances the men begin alone, the women put themselves beside the particular braves they wish to dance with. After religious exercises speeches are made by the sachems, with which this most in-

teresting council ends.

Many of the Tuscaroras are excellent musicians and at present the reservation possesses two bands, which frequently parade the streets of adjoining towns and cities.

Chief Pine Tree, of the Tuscarora tribe, and one of the most prominent sachems in the six nations, is the chieftain who started the Kansas lands claim against the United States government, the contest resulting in an award of \$2,000,000, which sum is soon to be appropriated and delivered to the six tribes.

There is a curious antique fort called "Kienuka," that is "stronghold," which demands more than a passing notice. The remains of this citadel are located on a natural escarpment of the ridge, on the reservation, known at present by the name of the "Old Sawmill." Tradition says that at the foundation of the Iroquois confederacy a queen or peacemaker was located here.

For more than a century the Tuscaroras have been firm friends to Uncle Sam. They took an active part in the revolutionary war. The Tuscaroras again evinced their friendship for the United States in the war of 1812, when they guarded the Niagara river at Lewiston. During the civil war a large number of Tuscaroras enlisted as volunteers, most of whom sacrificed their blood upon the battlefield.

Some speak of these aborigines of America as if they were rapidly becoming extinct. In 1660 the Iroquois numbered 11,000 souls. By the census of 1890 it is found that 8,483 live in Canada and 7,387 in the United States, another evidence that the native American race is not dying out.

OUR SECOND OPINION CONTEST.

The West opinion contest number two closed the 29th. This contest like our first opinion contest, resulted in scores of our readers donning their thinking caps and striving for a prize. The only man who seems to regard these contests with disfavor is the contest editor—the summing up is a task of considerable magnitude. In awarding the prizes where merit was the qualification, he called in the managing editor and the business manager for consultation, and the result below was obtained by their joint check and decision.

There were 100 contestants entered in this contest, their opinions being as follows (the number opposite each dealer's name indicates the number of contestants who considered his ad the best):

THE BEST PAGE AD:

W. F. Slusser, 15; Chas. King Son & Co., 5; Tiffin Stamp Co., 5; F. W. Reid, 5; Science & Art Corporation, 10; Greater N. Y. Stamp & Coin Co., 5; St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co., 15; United Stamp Co., 5; Opinion Contest Ad, 5; Northwestern School of Taxidermy, 5; W. H. Plank, 5.

THE BEST HALF-PAGE AD:

Wm. Hofert & Co., 10; Wendelin Weber, 20; Western Stamp Co., 5; Frank Dee Brayton, 15; A. J. Koens, 5; Eisengart & Son, 5; S. P. Hughes, 30; F. W. Pickard, 10.

THE BEST ONE-FOURTH PAGE AD:

Premium Stamp Co., 5; Clark W. Brown, 5; George J. Steele, 5; C. R. Homan, 10; C. W. Lawrence, 10; International Stamp Exchange, 5; T. C. Auf der Heide, 5; L. T. Brodstone, 5; Franklin Coombs, 5; F. J. Martin, 5; Union Stamp Co., 5; Knoxville Engraving Co., 5; Raphael Tuck & Son Co., 5; Heyn, the Photographer, 15; George D. Barnes, 5; F. C. Young, 5.

THE AD CONTAINING THE GREATEST BARGAIN:

Anybody's Magazine, 5; F. W. Reid, 5; A. C. McDonald, 10; Manheim Stamp Co., 20; Butz Stamp Co., 5; C. A. Nast, 5; George D. Barnes, 10; Chas. King Son & Co., 5; R. Buckins, 5; W. H. Plank, 5; Wendelin Weber, 10; S. P. Hughes, 5; West Subscription Ad, 5; R. E. Tower, 5.

A careful computation shows the following to be prize winners:

FIRST PRIZE:

John F. Simpkins, Julius Courtney, A. S. Martin, S. D. H. North, P. B. Wright, Jos. Karr, E. F. Gardner, R. Buckins,

Wm. E. Stevens, Roy L. Jewell.

SECOND PRIZE:

W. N. Shadle, C. Edwards, R. L. Wood, M. L. Hewitt, L. A. Switzer, C. C. Kane, Joy Johnson, Dr. C. F. Noe, Oscar E. Lancaster, Guy Clark, Jos. H. Oddy, C. P. DeKay.

THIRD PRIZE:

W. P. Young,

FOURTH PRIZE:

C. G. Moehling, Lea Johnstone, Roy L. Jewell, Amanda A. Brock, Maxwell C. B. Hart, Raymond Swab, E. R. Bowie, Wm. E. Stevens, W. F. VanDusen, Warren Ware, B. L. Parker, J. A. D. Park, Eleanor A. May, Frank L. Robbins.

The first prize is \$20 in stamps, coins, curios, cameras or ad space in the West. There having been ten whose reply to two or more of the questions agreed with the majority, this prize will be divided into ten equal parts, and winners are requested to notify us whether they want stamps, coins, souvenir cards, curios, camera supplies or ad space.

Mr. W. P. Young, to whom is awarded the third prize, failed to agree with his competitors on any of the questions. However, his replies appear to fully come within the requirements, and although there are several others whose MSS is of merit, Mr. Young's is selected as the prize winner. His replies were:

1 W. F. Slusser's is the most interesting page ad. It is gotten up in a very attractive manner. The portrait of Mr. Slusser begets confidence, which is the basis of any successful business. Without desiring to flatter the original of the wood cut, it is a face that denotes square-dealing, integrity, push, and insists on having a fair chance in the mercantile world. The ad is well worded, giving a clear idea of what the advertiser has, his terms and his desires. It also shows that he intends to give his patrons the worth of their money.

2 Wm. F. Hofert & Co's. ad, I con-

sider the best half-page one, for the reason that it insists on being seen, then, curiosity demands a careful perusal. The ad conveys in a simple concise manner the business methods of the firm, and is bound to increase their patronage, which is the main purpose of this, and all other advertising.

3 The premium stamp Co. have expressed a great deal in the fewest possible words, which added to the general neatness of the ad, and their remarkably low prices, would in my opinion, rank them at the head of the quarter-page advertisers.

4 The best bargain, seems to me, to be that offered by the publishers of "Anybody's Magazine," namely a year's subscription for the ridiculously inadequate sum of five cents.

The Postal Card Fad.

Fads may be a weakness of Americans, as has been asserted, but fads are not altogether weaknesses. Some of our fads may lead us to do foolish things in the super-exuberance of our enthusiasm but most of our minor fads—fads for collecting this, that or the other thing, for instance, have an educational value that should not be disregarded. Collecting postage stamps has a geographical value of no small importance; collecting autographs has a biographical significance and is in itself a valuable phase of one's education; so the prevailing fad for collecting postal cards as souvenirs of all nations and all places of interest has a tendency to stimulate us to familiarize ourselves with the countries and points of interest to which the cards relate. It often requires some such incentive to induce us to read up upon these subjects of interest, a knowledge of which forms a goodly part of our education.

Souvenir Post Cards.

By Miss M. Keller.

Various sets of St. Louis Fair cards came to my notice, and it can be said that they lay claim to design and execution of a superior order. There is and ought to be a big sale of these cards especially if in the hands of some one who knows the ins and outs of the business as our friend Adolph Seilge does. His cards are placed on the standard where it belongs—among the foremost of America's Souvenir card publications. Some of Seliges comic valentine postal cards were rich, and overflowing with humor. Some of these represented framed slates, on which were written funny verses and phrases in various dialects together with comical pictures of a boy or girl. These represented various nationalities, some subjects being dressed as Hollanders, Norwegians, Germans, Japanese etc. They are great mirth rousers, and anyone with only a small sense of fun would enjoy seeing them. They are richly coloured and make a cute missive for a valentine worth while with the added prospect of some one else the other end of the mail sharing the fun too. A set of fine and richly coloured Exposition Cards are seen from the dealer mentioned before. These represent the various buildings at the Exposition Grounds. These have been advertised, or are being advertised in the "PHILATELIC WEST AND CAMERA NEWS." We see various opinions of the Press on the Souvenir Card fad:—Pictorial post cards have of late obtained wonderful popularity and are coming into rivalry with postage stamps for the enthusiasm of collectors. If the pictorial post card is to be done at all, it could hardly be done better than at present: judging from the grand series of post cards for sale here

and abroad. The designing, printing and color are superb, and do much to create a love for the picture-post-card among the people of this country.

The fad is rapidly becoming the fashion, yet there is a great future for it. Some cards are really beautiful specimens of art printing. The fad is a new phase of English life and some of the fine series make the preservation of the tiny missive worth while, with the added prospect of sharing in the prize. It gives its devotees great pleasure. The prize Competition and Exhibition of Souvenir Post Cards by the International Souv. Card Exchange, St. Louis, Mo., has arranged for an Exhibition of Souv. Post Cards to be held at its headquarters in St. Louis. Handsome prizes will be awarded to the winners in the various contests. Many beautiful collections will no doubt be seen, and will be a great success. A competition like this one ought to prove a source of developing the use of such fine Post Cards. Art is seen more and more, spreading itself greatly in the style of Souvenir Cards, and firms seem to have given a good deal of attention to the matter.

From the artistic standpoint of view we should say Souvenir Cards would form more artistic collections than Postage Stamps. There are certainly some strong inducements to collect these cards, as the cards themselves are so admirably produced, to be worth collecting them for their own sake.

It's "a sure go," that the Picture Post Card has come to stay, since it has developed to quite a large business, and it is one from which much pleasure as well as profit is derived.

To add all the varied and charming designs which are to be formed on the various series of Cards is impossible. Those who are in the habit of using Picture Post Cards,—and who does not—will do well to inspect the vari-

ous series on sale and otherwise. The use of the Picture Post Card has double advantages, since they add pleasure to the message sent to friends, while their collection qualifies for prizes offered by the publishers. There are but few countries that have not yet taken up the fad, which shows commendable enterprise in Cartophily. A set of fine picturesque cards "Gem Scenery," Series II, published by Raphael Tuck's, are very beautiful, and beautifully coloured being chromographed after original water colour drawings by Wedworth Wadsworth and Albert Bowers. These look to be the original hand paintings in miniture, so naturally and beautifully are they executed. These show the paintings (or reproductions) of "The Gathering of the Storm," "A Winter Evening," "Evening Calm," "Lingering Rays," "A Sussex Farm," "Sunrise on the Meadows." The last one especially is true to nature. Budding and blooming spring blossoms are bursting forth from sprays and twigs on which are perched the sweet little songsters of the wood, furnish the finishing decorations of these beautifully artistic cards. An interesting card seen from Spain, shows a Bull Fight pictured so well as to inform us more definitely than anything we could have read upon the subject. It shows the bull fighters in their costumes, the crowded amphitheater, which shows what lovers the Spanish are of this brutal sport. A series of these cards is said to show a bull fight performance from beginning to end.

Human nature, and, more particularly, Anglo-Saxon nature, appears to love collecting as strenuously as it loves and practices the arts of sport and gambling. Both collecting and gambling appeal to fundamental emotions of humanity, the one arising out of a frank greed of gain, and the other out of a less ignoble vanity. To collect is to glory in your collection, whatever that may be.

RAMBLES THROUGH MY CARD COLLECTION.

By L. Voelchert, Appleton, Wis.

Looking over my card collection is like visiting old-time friends. Although a collector of nearly everything the two hobbies I ride most are philately and philocarty. The latter has its advantage over the former in that every card is a messenger—something original and interesting. It is, in fact, an original collection of art, travel, history and biography, which force new beauties on your mind the more you observe them. A picture is like a rare book. The more you study them the more details you discover and the more interesting they become.

Each of my cards bears the signature and message of the sender. Signatures from boys and girls, men and women, domestic and foreign, some in professional life and a few signatures of royalty. Each handwriting has its own characteristics, each an original way of writing their message. Some jokes, others have a brief "Thank you," still others bear a lengthy description, etc., etc.

Many written in foreign languages, some bearing the cancellations of many cities to which they were misssent. Cards from different nations and different states showing street scenes, natural scenery, ruins, churches, abbeys, cathedrals and other beautiful buildings. Cards of soldiers, statesmen, actors, actresses, animals, historic places, castles, statues and paintings. Plain cards, ornamental cards, transparent cards, humorous and cards from amateur photographers. Cards from four expositions. Cards bearing different postmarks and different stamps.

Among my English collections I have many different portraits of Hon. Cecil Rhodes, Sir Walter Scott, Earl Roberts, Marquis of Salisbury, Viscount Kitchener, Queen Victoria, Hon. A. J. Balfour, Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Sir Alfred Milner, Admiral Seymour,

Gen. Gaselee, Earl of Roseberry, the Duke of Wellington and many portraits of the king and queen.

Also many cards showing the coronation procession. One is of the king and queen in their coronation robes, posted and dated August 9, 1902, the date of the coronation. I prize this very highly.

Among the castles is Osborn house, where Queen Victoria died; Windsor castle, Lambeth palace and the castles of Claypots, Gwrch, Arundel, Wray, Edinburgh, Dundee, Chepstow Sissinghurst and Durham.

My Shakespeare set includes two views of Shakespeare's house on Stratford-on-Avon, Anne Hathaway's cottage and the church where Shakespeare and his wife were buried.

I have Wordsworth's house of "Rydal Mount" and Burns' cottage in Ayr. You can see the sign of a saloon swinging from the door and it recalls us to the negligence of Burns' admirers.

Among the cards showing the lives of the people I have some typical Scottish views that remind me of "Thrums." On this card a merry Scottish piper in Highland dress is blowing his bag-pipe. He is a piper of the "Black Watch." Here are some soldiers ready to embark for South Africa. Here are South African natives grinning wickedly. Here the grass huts of the native Hawaiians carry our thoughts to primitive architecture. On this card old Welsh women in high silk hats are gossiping and spinning on old-fashioned spinning wheels, and here an old Irish granny is also busy at her loom. Here are the painted representatives of our Indian tribes and here the "Indians" of far-off India.

Philocarty is rapidly gaining favor with everybody and I consider it the hobby of hobbies, for it interests you in art, literature, history, philately, languages, autograph collecting, postmarks, correspondence and character reading.

A SHORT COMPARISON

of the Mound Builder and the Indian.

By Oswald A. Bauer, A. S. of C. C.,
325.

The oft-repeated question as to whether there is any radical difference between the Indian and the mound-builder is indeed an old one. Weighty opinions rest upon each side and it would be, to say the least, premature to lay down any one opinion upon a question which may never be definitely settled. For the purposes of a short comparison of the general remains of the two peoples, however, the terms of mound-builder and Indian may be used. The mound-builders were anterior to the Indians of the historic periods at least and undoubtedly possessed many characteristics, traits and customs foreign to the latter just as the various Indian tribes differed among themselves. They may, therefore, be called by different names, nominally, at least, for the purpose of comparison.

Just as there have been periods in which certain styles of architecture have been developed, so there was a period in which mound-building was a characteristic of the inhabitants of this country. Contrasting the works of these prehistoric inhabitants and those of the historic Indian we see at once a distinct change. The Indian relics are certainly inferior to those of the mound-builders in workmanship and execution. This fact was probably produced by the coming of the white man and his cousins, many of which slowly but surely produced their effect upon the Indian and caused a decided deterioration in his various arts. His skill in every respect showed a marked change and his distinguishing traits gradually but surely faded.

In considering the character of relics found in the respective districts of the mound and the Indian let us first glance at the material of which they

are composed. Perhaps the best object which can be taken for comparison is the pipe, since upon this object the Indian looked with most reverence and devoted to its manufacture his greatest care and skill. It represents his work at its best. In the eastern or so-called Indian district we find a large majority of the pipes to be of a pottery composition, while those found in Ohio and adjoining mound districts are of steatite or soapstone. Upon those pipes which are found in New York we find many portraits of the white man; those found in the mounds lack this more modern characteristic. Now as to animal effigies carved upon the pipes. In the case of the mound-builders it is found that they were very skillful in reproducing animal imitations and usually chose for their subjects the native animals of their locality. Those pipes of the modern Indian found in New York and elsewhere, on the other hand, are but poor imitations of their actual subjects and show little skill. In fact some of them are so poor that it is impossible to discern the subject intended to be represented. As to the shape of the pipe, the more modern or Indian is found in the square-cut variety having sharp angles. The tubular variety may be either ancient or modern. The monitor pipe is still another example. This pipe was made out of a single stone and was used without a stem. The specimens of this in Indian workmanship are in strong contrast to those of the mound-builders, the former being very rude and seeming to have lost that sanctity in the eyes of the Indian of the more modern period, which his predecessors attached to it in a high degree. It is, of course, possible that the Indian pipes found were in an unfinished state, thus accounting for their rough appearance, but the numerous instances would tend to disprove this theory and argue rather that they lacked skill in manufacture.

Another variety of relic which is common throughout the mound district is

the mace or banner-stone. These implements are perforated, having flanges or wings, and are very widely distributed. Some of them seem to have been executed by the more modern Indians, but in almost all of these cases a lack of skill in finishing is shown when compared to those of the mound-builders. This would seem to lead to the idea that they were executed by the modern tribes in perpetuation of a symbol handed down from their predecessors, the mound-builders, and in so doing had failed to preserve the original skill exhibited in the work of the latter.

The same superiority of the mound relics are to be noticed in the other implements found, such as copper knives, axes and spears. The badges and ornaments are certainly superior to those of the modern Indian. They form, in fact, a class by themselves, indicative of a degree of art and skill lost in the historic Indian. The modern Indian relics are generally found in graves or on the surface, betokening a wandering disposition. The mound-builders, on the other hand, seem to have been more settled and clung to one locality.

As to the civilization of the latter little is necessarily known. Whether they were of a higher type than the modern Indian, as it would seem from their superiority in many things, it is hard to say. Where they came from and whether they had ever felt the influence of a more civilized race, borrowing their ideas, is a question. The fact that eastern symbols have been found amongst their burial places and that forts are associated with the latter would seem to offer some ground for dispute at least. But whatever may be the fact regarding this question, there is another which remains and which seems to be firmly established, namely, that the period of the mound-builders was distinguished for its native art and that of the Indian for a decided decline in this respect.

Some Fossils of Iowa.

By F. A. Brown.

East Peru, Iowa.

I have in mind a paper more in the way of a check list than a description. Anyone acquainted with geological specimens knows that the fossil corals are a thing of beauty and a joy forever, especially when polished. It is in the Devonian and Silurian ages that the finest of corals are found; and eastern Iowa has fine exposures of both these periods.

The Silurian is the principle system exposed in a number of counties along the Mississippi river as follows: Scott, Cedar, Clinton, Jones, Jackson, Dubuque, Delaware, Clayton, Fayette, Allamakee and Winneshiek.

The Devonian is principally found in Worth, Mitchell, Howard, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Chickasaw, Butler, Bremer, Black Hawk, Benton, Linn, Johnson and Muscatine; so that we have quite a territory from which to gather these interesting specimens.

I will name a few of the most important from each formation:

SILURIAN—DELAWARE CO.

- 1—Alveolites-undosus,
- 2—Cladopora-laqueata,
- 3—Cyathophyllum-radiculum,
- 4—Cystophorolites-major,
- 5— “ “ minor,
- 6—Cystiphyllum-Niagarensis,
- 7—Favosites-favosus,
- 8— “ Niagarensis,
- 9— “ alveolaris,
- 10— “ (Astrocerium) hispidus,
- 11— “ “ hisingeri,
- 12— “ obliquus,
- 13—Halysites-catenulatus,
- 14—Heliolites-megastoma,
- 15— “ interstinctus,
- 16— “ pyriformis,
- 17— “ subtulatus,
- 18—Lyellia-Americana,

- 19— “ decipiens,
- 20—Plasmopora-follis,
- 21—Ptychophyllum-expansum,
- 22—Thecia-maijor,
- 23—Streptelasma-patula,
- 24— “ spongaxis,
- 25—Strombodes-mamillare,
- 26— “ gigas,
- 27— “ pentagonus,
- 28—Syringopora-tenella,
- 29— “ verticenata,
- 30—Zaphrentis-stokesi.

These are only the most important corals of the Silurian in eastern Iowa.

DEVONIAN—CERRO GORDO CO.

- 1—Aceruularia-inequalis,
- 2— “ davidsonia,
- 3— “ profunda,
- 4—Alveolites-Rockfordensis,
- 5—Aulocophyllum-princeps,
- 6—Cladopora-iowensis,
- 7—Cyathophyllum-robustum,
- 8— “ solidum,
- 9—Cystiphyllum-conifolle,
- 10— “ mundullum,
- 11—Campophyllum-nanum,
- 12—Favosites-alpenensis,
- 13—Ptychophyllum-ellipticum,
- 14— “ versiforme,
- 15—Pachyporyllum-woolmani,
- 16— “ soltarium,
- 17—Phillipsastrea-billingsi.

The forty-seven corals which I have named as belonging to the Devonian and the Silurian are but a part of those occurring in these formations.

The specimens vary from a mere pebble as large as the end of one's little finger to others as large as five feet across—certainly variations enough to suit any taste.

Most all of these corals are silicified, and therefore take a high polish and show the structure beautifully. The ACERVULARIA DAVIDSONIA, also the STROMBODES PENTAGONUS when polished make beautiful paper weights.

The Strombodes pentagonus is found plentifully at Iowa City on Iowa river,

also at Petosky, Mich., from which it is sometimes called Petosky stone.

The favosites are equally beautiful, and get their name because they resemble honey-comb.

The famous “Birds Eye Marble” of Iowa, is but a specie of petrified coral.

I would say to all if you have a friend or any one to whom you can write in counties I have mentioned ask them to send you specimens of these beauties of Iowa. One of our vice-presidents, Mrs. F. May Little, lives in the Devonian horizon, and within less than a day's drive of that collecting ground famous among geologists and known as “The Hackberry Grove Clay Bank”. According to reports it is certainly a treasure trove for the geological collector. Of the A. S. S. C. the following collectors live in one or the other of these horizons: No's. 98, 116, 468, 461, 94, 194, 376, 131, 98, 102, 139, 142, 393, 472. So you see you have ample opportunity to secure these beauties.

I will be glad to have further information on this subject, or give answer to inquiries providing a stamp is enclosed for reply.

The craze for antiques and curios is responsible for some ingenious swindles, but it is doubtful if many could surpass that which victimized an American woman traveling abroad, who, while in Holland, purchased some alleged Dutch pottery which proved on close examination to be common granite ware, made in America in odd shapes, and decorated in Dutch fashion to be sold in Holland as antique cooking utensils. The fact is well known that there is a considerable industry in the manufacture of so-called Egyptian scarabs in America, which are sent to Egypt to be sold to unsuspecting tourists as genuine antiques.

Some Nautical Curios.

By Virginia Baker

SCATTERED all along the New England sea coast are quiet old towns, whose names three quarters of a century ago, were well known in the leading ports of Europe and Asia, South America and the West Indies. Through the merchantmen and whalers, the coasters and West Indiamen, long since vanished from their docks, and though in many instances the cotton mill has replaced the ship yard and warehouse, these towns still present what may be termed "nautical characteristics" so marked as to instantly impress the stranger who may chance to enter their gates. For be it observed that an old New England seaport differs as vividly from an old New England farming district as an Indian water jar differs from a Venetian glass vase.

In all these old towns you are certain to find old wharves, old sail lofts, old shops which once displayed the legend "Ship Stores" over their doors, and and old houses built by old families who can boast of innumerable old sea captains among their dead and gone ancestors. One who visits these old family mansions is instantly reminded of the fact that he is among a people whose forbears were wont "to go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters."

The "garret" of many a house reveals treasures that would incite envy in the breast of a curio collector. Here are great cedar chests in which repose delicately embroidered muslins from India, shows with gay oriental borders from Persia, and gowns of rich brocade from the Celestial Empire. Under the eaves you may see the wooden shoes of Pacific Islanders, beautifully decorated. New Zealand

war clubs, curved paddles of cocoanut wood, and a host of other odd relics gathered from every quarter of the globe.

Nor are these treasures confined to attics and garrets alone. Nearly every room in the house contains something "brought faom the sea" in the half forgotten past. There are round tablets of polished Spanish mahogany, quaint mirrors in gilded frames, trays and boxes, and cabinets of Japanese lacquer work, or, perchance, a curved chair of rosewood, taken from the cabin of some English or French privateer which once fell a prey to Yankee courage and audacity. A peep at the roomy "top shelf" of a china closet is often rewarded by a glimpse of pitchers and punch bowls, and tiny Chinese cups and saucers, and dishes from Japan made in the form of birds or fishes, every one of is nearly or quite a century old.

A peculiar charm invests the old fashioned secretary or cabinet in which are stored genuine "sea finds," shells, sponges, corals, whales' teeth, and the like. You may learn much of the old time Jack Tar's life at sea by studying some of these thoughtfully. What did not Jack accomplish? He touched the tips of a branch of white coral with carmine and yellow ochre and transformed it into a tree of fairy land. He carved marvelous birds and beasts on the pearly wanthes shell, and inscribed the Lord's Prayer on tiny shells, in lettering which viewed through a microscope, awaken commingled wonder and admiration. And with his pen knife dipped in lamp black he wrote on the polished surface of whales' teeth pictures exquisite as steel engravings. Who that has once viewed the lady in bodised gown and "leghorn flat" tied beneath her chin, or the scene in the Garden of Eden

with its wonderful apple tree having a still more wonderful serpent apple in mouth coiled about its stiff trunk will deny that the old-time "tars of Columbia" possessed the true artistic spirit?

Some of the New England coast towns boast "antiquarian rooms" where are collected and preserved the precious relics of bygone days of maritime greatness. In such museums many a bit of so called "trash" which otherwise would be discarded as worthless, finds a resting place and gladdens the eyes of the summer tourist who chances to be a "relic fiend." Antiquarian rooms, certainly ought to be opened more generally than they are, for they serve as important factions in the education of the youth of a community, by illustrating local history of the past as nothing else is capable of doing.

OLD CHINA.

By Dr. C. F. Noe.

The study and collection of old china has increased wonderfully in popularity within the last few years, and very deservedly so. It is a large field for the collector, limited practically only by the capacity of his purse. If he extends his collections so as to include the products of the ancient ceramic arts, such as are now exhumed on the sites of ancient cities in the old world, it becomes a very expensive pastime.

But it is not necessary to make the scope of one's collection so large, as much pleasure and instruction can be derived from our modern ceramics.

Many collectors specialize in the china of certain times, districts or countries; others collect only the so-called historical china, bearing views having

historical significance or made in celebration of some great event.

Perhaps the most popular amongst American collectors is the so-called Staffordshire ware, made in the district of that name in England. Here America obtained almost her entire supply of china for many years, as very little tableware was made in this country until very recently. These celebrated potteries have existed for several centuries and it was here that Wedgwood first produced the ware which still bears his name. Besides Wedgwood we have Ridgway, Wood, Adams, Clews, Mayer and others as the most prominent manufacturers of the ware now so much sought.

For a long time during the eighteenth and the early part of the nineteenth century the principal color used on china was dark blue, and such a beautiful dark blue it was that we have not its equal at the present day. For the American trade special subjects, of interest to the American public, were used in the decorations. We find plates with views of New York, Boston, Baltimore, arms of various states and of events of the revolutionary war.

Some of these are very rare and as much as \$50 is sometimes paid for a single plate. Platters, teapots, etc., were probably made in all these various patterns and are still rarer than plates. Following the period of dark blue ware we have a change to various other colors. The potters quit making the dark blue entirely and decorated their products in light blue, lilac, mulberry, green, etc., obtaining very pleasing and dainty effects. They still used many historical views, besides others.

Specimens of this ware in the various colors, although not quite as rare as the dark blue, make a very pretty collection and are much desired for decorating purposes.

All this highly-decorated china went out of style about the middle of the last century and only of late years, when the demand for antiques began to develop, have the potters tried to make imitations of their old products, with more or less success. Of course, a collector has to be careful not to buy one of these recent imitations for antique. One of our best guides in determining the character of a given piece of china is the mark which was placed on it by the maker. Another distinguishing point for most old plates are small pin-point depressions placed in three groups of three on the bottom of the plate. These are the result of the old method of manufacture and not found on the modern makes. For a detailed list of the various marks it is best to consult one of the many books on the subject.

Here and There in the Philatelic and Curio World

By VERA W. HANWAY

JACQUES Lebandy, the self styled Emperor of Sahara is now turning his attention to philatelic matters. Perhaps we may even see an issue of Saharan stamps at some future date. This would prove very interesting. Wonder what their appearance will be.

Stamp collectors and money hobbyists are making a great scramble at present to secure certain stamps of St. Kitts and others of the Danish West Indies, which certainly have a place in the stamp his-

tory of the United States. When the United States decided to purchase these islands from Denmark, the Danish Government felt so sure that the deal would be clinched that it neglected to issue a fresh lot of stamps for the little islands, thinking that in another six months, they would belong to Uncle Sam. The Dutch Parliament voted against any such action however and so the treaty was killed. In the meantime, while the diplomats were at work the supply of stamps in the Danish West Indies ran short.

First the one pfennig stamps disappeared, then the two pfennig kind vanished and nothing was left but the fours, fives and sixes. When this happened the people took to buying four pfennig stamps and cutting them in twain diagonally, using the parts in lieu of two-cent stamps.

The unique stamps are scarce as only a limited number were so divided. The Danish Government sent out a new issue just about the time the natives of their West Indian colonies were beginning to cut into the sixes and divide them into three parts.

In a hollow where a cellar might have been, just a few feet from the ruins of a fire place and surrounded by gnarled apple trees, there stands a monument of freshly carved stone and on the face is this inscription.

On this spot stood the cottage
where was born
Chester A. Arthur,
The twenty-first President of the
United States.
Erected by the
State of Vermont.

One must travel to the north west corner of Vermont to read this inscription. The nearest railroad station is that of Fairfield and then one must drive many a mile over the country roads to the place where the house stood. The place

is so remote that when the monument was unveiled on the thirteenth of October only a few made the journey. It was a noted gathering however despite its few members, among those there were Governor McCullough of Vermont, Senator William E. Chandler, who was Secretary of the Navy when Arthur was President; Robert T. Lincoln Secretary of War at the same time; ex-Congressman H. Henry Powers; Senator Redfield Proctor; Congressman D. J. Foster and Kittridge Haskins.

Miss. A. M. Vail, librarian at the New York Botanical Museum in the Bronx Park, has recently returned from a trip in Europe. She went to buy books for the library at an auction of botanical works in Paris.

She bought between six and seven hundred works costing \$300000 in all and forming the most important addition thus far made to the library. The gift for the purchase came from Mr. Carnegie.

Some of these books are old and valuable, not only for their contents but as specimens of book making. The most valuable among them is "Flora Græca" published in 1806. It is a rare and costly work, the only one ever published on

the flora of Greece, with beautiful plates and comprising only thirty copies to the edition. The collection contains many local herbals of Europe, one published in 1509. After the auction Miss Vail visited public and botanical collections in Paris, Antwerp, Amsterdam and Lyden.

Uncle Sam's cage for live birds at the St. Louis Exposition will be 200 feet long 90 feet wide and 52 feet high. The collection of 2000 birds from all parts of the world will be the most complete ever attempted.

A steel like grass from the volcanic

slopes of Oran, Algeria, is so elastic that it can be used instead of springs in the manufacture of furniture.

A natural soap mine has been discovered near Ashcroft, British Columbia. The composition of the soap seems to be about one-fifth borax. A company has been formed to work it.

Much is being written now days about the stamp collectors emblem or button. This should be an object of interest for every collector. It doubtless would prove of great use and if so why should we not have it? If collectors demand it and some one heads the matter probably we shall soon have it.

A German priest named Vincent Scheil making excavations in an ancient Babylonian city has unearthed a school just as it was 4000 years ago in the time of King Hammurabi.

It has many inscribed brick. One brick says: "He who learns to write well in school will shine as the sun."

There were seven small rooms in the school each with its various kinds of brick. In one room were found bricks with grammatical exercises. The scholars evidently sat on the ground in rows with soft clay bricks in their hands painfully forming the hard cuneiform letters. Father Scheil says the thumb marks of the teacher are to be detected where he smudged over the scholars' mistake.

There is an evidence that girls got pretty much the same education as boys.

Copper cents, of any date, when in very fine condition, command a premium 1793, a few types of the 1794, 1799, 1804 and 1809 are the only dates in any condition but "fine" that command a premium worth the postage to find out.—Mekeel's Stamp Collector.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF NEW YORK.

No. 1—Chipped Implements.

By Oswald A. Bauer, A. S. of C. C.,
325.

The aboriginal occupation of New York state has been like that of many other localities of a miscellaneous or varied nature. Most of the remains and traces left to us to-day in the shape of relics are to be found near streams or lakes, large or small as the case may be. Water was a necessary attribute of the Indian camp and the canoe being the chief means of travel necessitated the nearness of a sufficient means for its use. Shell heaps and burnt earth indicate these ancient camps and among or near them are to be found the majority of the relics. Not always the best ones are found in this way, however. Some very choice examples are found along the old trails or Indian highways where, hidden by a dry twig or similar shield, they have had little chance of discovery.

In considering the implements found we find that many of them resemble the paleolithic forms. Caches are frequent and especially those containing flint chipped into rude triangular shapes. These are supposed to have been the storehouses from which other implements were made as occasion demanded. Flint chips are abundant in localities and indicate the workshop of the arrow maker, if not his permanent residence. The simplest form of chipped implement, perhaps, was the knife, since it might easily be turned into a spear to suit the convenience of the owner. They probably were often used also as scrapers when they

had a bent or curved surface.

Arrows, of course, are the commonest implements found. As a general rule all of the leading types are represented in the various parts of the state. The triangular form seems to be the rarest, especially those having a straight base. Those with a concave base are more widely distributed and appear to have been a favorite form, especially with the Iroquois. The pentagonal variety without notches is fairly well distributed. The commonest variety, or the notched, occur in many forms, more particularly those having widely expanded bases. Spears vary greatly in size and character. The leaf-shaped varieties are often large and some are over nine inches long. Their composition is often a very showy material, while the workmanship varies from fine to coarse. Stemmed forms often occur and with or without notches. Some varieties are frequent having two notches and arrows are also said to have been found possessing this characteristic, but it is to be doubted if these were not embryo spears.

Knives are to be found in many forms, from the mere piece of flaked hornstone with a sharp edge, used for temporary purposes, to the more complex varieties. Many were nearly circular in shape and chipped to a sharp edge all the way around. The variety possessing a diamond form are by no means rare and fine specimens are often secured. Others combine a drill-shape and scraper base with the knife, but are usually small. There are many combinations of scrapers with knives and perhaps few implements vary more. An implement which

seems to be particularly rare is the serrated arrow and the few which have been found, instead of being native, seem to point to a distant origin from the composition of their material, Mohawk valley. They are nodules of flint, rude in appearance and showing This variety is more common in the west and south.

Flint hammers are frequent in the evidences of hammering or chipping. They differ widely from hammer stones and the latter probably restricted their use, being more finished. The balls of stone used in war clubs do not come under this class. Besides this there are several other varieties of chipped implements which are either of uncertain use or cannot be placed among any other of the larger classes. Many of these probably were broken or unfinished articles abandoned by their makers for some defect or other reason.

At last in conclusion of the chipped implements we might mention the so-called net sinkers. These consist of a small flat stone which was either chipped around the edge or left in the original state and a notch made in each side to prevent its slipping when tied. Some of these sinkers are very large, measuring eight inches across. Another variety called anchors are much larger and have a groove running around them. These have been found weighing as much as three pounds and more. Sinkers are most commonly found near the lakes, especially Seneca and Cayuga, where they occur in quantities. The sinker should not be confused with the so-called quoit, which was neatly chipped all the way around and had no notches. The notches seem to be the distinguish-

ing feature of the sinkers. The quoits are usually found on camp sites. Either of the two vary in size, however, from very large to very small.

This completes a short summary of the chipped implements of New York. They preceded and survived the polished stone articles. Many other localities yet unexplored may present varieties not noted and it is certain that there are numerous instances of such remains which should be more thoroughly investigated with this end in view. On the whole the chipped implements are given a very good representation in this state and not unfrequently varieties are found which seem to be entirely isolated.

Souvenir Dollars in Demand.

The souvenir coin department of the World's Fair is unusually active at present because of the large demand for the Louisiana Gold Dolla, particularly from jewelers, who agree that the souvenir coin is a gem of numismatic excellence and particularly adapted to various mountings in forms for personal adornment. January 16 was the red letter day in the history of the coin. One hundred and seventy-five orders, with cash enclosures for almost \$10,000, called for over three thousand or the little souvenirs. The calls ranged from a single coin to one hundred and seventy coins, the banner order coming from the First National Bank of Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Idaho Opals at World's Fair.

One county in Idaho will exhibit in the Mines and Metallurgy Palace at the World's Fair 200,000 opals. These will be shown in all stages—just as they come from the ground in Idaho and later in every stage of cutting and polishing. The newly developed opal mines in Idaho are said to be the richest yet discovered in the world.



PREHISTORIC MAN

By *Arthur B. Coover.*

Supt. Dept. of Archaeology
for the A. S. of C. C.

As field assistant with the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society's survey, my duties have been such that I was required to carefully uncover and photograph all the skeletons found, and in the past five years I have uncovered and photographed some two hundred and fifty skeletons of prehistoric man. While engaged in my work the following lines have often recurred to me:

'Behold this ruin, 'twas a skull,
Once of etherial spirit full;
This narrow cell was life's retreat,
This space was thought's mysterious seat.

What beautiful visions filled this spot,

What dreams of pleasure long forgot:
'Nor hope, 'nor love, 'nor joy 'nor fear,

Has left one trace of record here.

Beneath this mouldering canopy,
Once shone the bright and busy eye;
But start not at this busy void,
If social love these eyes employed.
If with no lawless fire they gleamed,
But through the dews of pity beamed;
These eyes shall be forever bright,
When Sun and Stars are sunk in night.

Within this narrow cavern hung
The ready, swift and tuneful tongue;
If falsehood's honey it disdained,
And when it could not praise, was chained.

If cold in virtue's cause it spoke,
Yet gentle concord never broke;

This silent tongue shall plead for thee,
When time unveils Eternity.

Say, did these fingers delve the mines,

Or with their environed rubies shine;
To hew the rock or wear the gem,
Can little now avail to them.

But if the page of truth they sought,
Or comfort to the mourner brought,
These hands a richer need shall claim
Than all that waits on wealth or fame.

Matters it whether bare or shod,
These feet the paths of duty trod;
If from the bowers of ease they fled;
To seek affliction's humble shed.
If grandeur's guilty pride they spurned,

And home to virtue's lot returned;
These feet with angels wings shall rise,

And tread the palace of the skies."

The photograph which is reproduced to illustrate these lines is one taken last summer while exploring a mound and shows how carefully the skeletons are uncovered. Not a bone or specimen is moved until after the photograph is taken and by this means an undisputable record is kept of the position of every skeleton found.

Various ornaments made of red Pipe stone (Catlinite) have been found in the ancient ruins in the Salt River Valley, Arizona. Some years ago Dr. Burt Ogburn of Phoenix, Arizona, found in one of the ruins north and west of Phoenix, a tube pipe about three and one half inches in length and one inch in diameter that was made of Catlinite. Some time ago there was found in one of the numerous Cliff Dweller's ruins in the northern part of the Territory a large shell inlaid with thin sections of Catlinite and Turquoise. So far as known there has never been a deposit of the Cataline discovered in Arizona and the source of supply was probably from the deposit of the stone in Minnesota. Turquoise is frequently found in Arizona and in a number of places the deposits of Turquoise have been worked by a prehistoric race, Near Kelvin, on the top of a mountain there are a number of pits that were excavated in the Turquoise bearing rock by a prehistoric race, and hammer stones are often found in the debris moved from the pits. Fragments of ancient pottery are frequently found in the vicinity of the ancient workings.

Where Indian Relics are Plentiful. ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

BY F. E. Halbert.

It is said that southern Georgia is the best place in the United States in which to search for Indian relics as they are found more abundant there. In the vicinity of Plymouth, Mass., the writer found the greatest evidence of the vanquished red-man: but then the writer has never been in southern Georgia.

In many places around Cape Cod Bay there are layers of clam and mussel shells a foot deep just beneath the surface of the soil covering quite large areas. There is scarcely a square rod of dug ground within a mile of the coast that does not show a good many scattered shells. Among these shells relics are found, including a good many ceremonial objects. One of our party one day picked up an enormous spear which evidently had been used for making holes in the ice on some of the numerous ponds, through which to fish.. The butt of this spear was full three inches across and over an inch thick.

I have seen relics found here that are extremely rare. In fact I do not believe any collection in other sections can show duplicates; and some of the specimens have not been duplicated even here up to the present time. What great war councils and clam feasts have been held here! What war whoops have echoed through the forests long before Columbus was born! Evidently many a battle was fought here with arrow and tomahawk in the days long gone by.

Near Godard, in the extreme southern part of Yavapai County, Arizona, a peculiar mineral paste is found. Barrel after barrel of the mineral

paste can be removed in succession from the so called Soap Spring, and the quantity of paste in sight in the Spring is not diminished in the least. The mineral paste has medicinal qualities and a company has been formed in Arizona for the purpose of introducing the product to the public. Recently arrangements have been made with one of the druggists in Phoenix to handle the paste in that section of the country. The paste is apparently a variety of Saponite, a hydrous silicate containing Silica, Alumina, Magnesia, Iron Oxide, water and other chemical combinations.

TWIN CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Twin City Philatelic Society meets second Friday of each month at No. 535 Smithfield st., Pittsburg, Pa.

President—E L Porter, 413 Wood street, Pittsburg, Pa.

Vice President—Dr T L Hazzard, 56 Montgomery avenue, Allegheny Pa.

Secretary—Geo W Rode, 255 Fifth avenue, Pittsburg, Pa.

Treasurer—Anton Platz, 314 Fourth Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

Sales Superintendent—J 'M Crom, East Pittsburg, Pa.

Librarian—Max Arnheim, 908 Liberty Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

Counterfeit Detector—H E Wilson, Fitzsimmons Bldg. Pittsburg, Pa.

REGULAR MEETING JAN. 8TH, 1904.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. E. Doebelin. President pro tem; six members and two visitors being present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Chair appointed Messrs. A. G. Burgoyne, Max Arnheim, and Adam E. Daum to act as judges for the exhibit of collections for any one county at the next meeting.

Sixteen lots were sold at the informal auction sale.

The financial report showed a balance of \$107.32.

After the transaction of some routine business the meeting adjourned.

George W. Rode, Secy.

MINERALOGY

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept. This month we have a very good contribution on quartz from Mr. E. Bechtold of Atchison, Kas., who has promised to favor us further. All such are very welcome. Quartz has been treated of before but this essay contains many interesting points. — Forest Gaines, Ed.]

ONE of the most beautiful and yet one of the most common constituents of the earth's rocks is quartz.

The principal varieties of quartz are quartz-rock, flint, chert, hornstone, chalcedony, carnelian, sard, bloodstone and opal. Having pointed out the most important varieties I will now give a short sketch on each.

Quartz rock or massive quartz is often found in mountainous masses, hundreds of feet thick. Many of the quartz schists and micaceous schists consist chiefly of quartz irregularly split up by thin leaflets of mica. Sandstone rocks are often little besides more or less rolled grains of quartz and have been derived from the breaking up, under various denuding agencies, of rocks in which quartz has been the prevailing mineral.

Views of quartz are very frequently found in the old slate and schist rocks, sometimes forming broad irregular bands at other times were threads traversing the other materials. Such veins will often present open spaces in which the quartz will be found regularly crystallized.

Before going any farther I must here give a word to the manner of crystallization. As a rock crystal the quartz is a hexagonal prism terminated at each end by a rhombohedron and where broken it will be seen to have a splintery fracture. The most beautiful and perfect specimens are usually obtained from large cavities or geodes in the older igneous rocks and also from veins in these and other rocks. The size and color of the quartz crystals vary very much. Some are so small as to be microscopi-

cal while others are of considerable size. These colors have been noted in quartz crystals yellow, brown, black, red, blue, violet and green.

Now that I have mentioned the crystallization and coloring of quartz crystals I will continue the descriptions.

Next I will take up flint and chert. Flint and chert are generally found in thin layers in limestone deposits, sometimes a little thicker. The black color of flint and chert of the chalk formation is due to the presence of carbon in great quantities.

Hornstone is merely a variety of chert. Chalcedony is a mixture of crystalline and amorphous quartz. It is generally a botryoidal shaped stone. Its many different colors have won for it various names.

Carnelians and sards are only color distinctions of chalcedony and the large family of agates, including onyx and sardonyx are also variations of chalcedony, found in layers, regular and irregular, also combined with other forms of quartz.

Bloodstone is a mixture of chalcedony and jasper, colored by metallic oxides.

One of the most beautiful forms of quartz is the opal, a very widely liked gemstone. It is merely amorphous silicon-quartz combined with water, which has filtered out through the rocks, which are generally igneous and is found in cavities and fissures of those rocks.

Quartz is one of the hardest minerals known ranking as seven on the scale of hardness.

To come to a conclusion now, I will give the scale of hardness generally accepted by geologists.

You will notice that as the numbers go higher the mineral becomes harder.

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Talc or soapstone | 6. Feldspar |
| 2. Gypsum | 7. Quartz |
| 3. Calcite | 8. Topaz |
| 4. Theorspar | 9. Corundum |
| 5. Apatite | 10. Diamond |

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J.
 Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
 Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
 Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
 Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
 Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg, Lithrow,
 New York.
 Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
 Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
 Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Aus-
 tin, Texas.
 Official Organ, The WEST.

REPORT OF SALE SUPT.

In circulation Dec. 30-03		
	30 books	\$497.18
Received since		
	20 "	352.96
	50 "	\$850.14
Retired (Sales \$55.21) 9 "		186.72
In circulation Feb. 1-04 41 "		\$663.42

Respectfully,
Charles Warnig.

NEW MEMBERS

299 Homer Collins, Duluth, Minn.
 300 Jno. N. Deglmann, Mankato, Minn.
 301 A. C. Chase, East Providence, R.I.

APPLICATIONS

A. C. Ballard 225 Fourth St. Baraboo,
 Wis., age 18, Stamp dealer Ref C. A.
 Ballard, W. P. Kelley.

Harry Roberts 505 Rhode Island Ave.,
 Washington, D. C., age 16, stenographer,
 ref C. Waring, C. Kaynor.

E. C. Cleary, box 293, Bloomington,
 Ill., Age 32 Dep. County Clerk, ref P.
 A. Guthrie Co, P. Kelley.

Members should join now and get
 ready to attend convention in St. Louis
 in August. Should like to hear from
 members who intend to go so I can
 make proper kind of hotel arrangements.
 Send for application blank and join a
 society which will benefit you.

Respectfully,

W. P. Kelley,

Secy-Treasurer,

3324 Peery Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

Souvenir Coin Jewelry

The Louisiana Purchase Exposition is now furnishing its Souvenir Gold Dollar in neat gold mountings in forms for personal adornment, including charms, bangle, stick and brooch pins, the latter containing one, two and three coins. These mountings are furnished without additional cost and are contributing largely to the sale of the coin, which is undoubtedly the finest example of modern die engraving and mental stamping. That but 125,000 of each type has been issued and that most preservers of historic souvenirs are purchasing both, indicates the entire issue will be exhausted. The price \$3.00 each that has been established for this coin will positively be maintained. Orders are forwarded prepaid by registered mail and should be addressed to Louisiana Purchase Exposition, Souvenir Coin Department, St. Louis.



Two Coin Brooch, \$6.00



Three Coin Brooch, \$9.00



Brooch, \$3.00



Charm, \$3.00

FOREIGN READERS

We hope that all our readers in foreign countries will consider themselves Correspondents of their particular locality, and send information and notes about stamps and stamp matters, coins curios, relics, photography, etc. that may be of interest to our readers.

THE PHILATELIC FISCAL SOCIETY.

Formerly the American Fiscal Philatelic Society.

Organized for the benefit of, and in the interests of Collectors of the Fiscal Stamps of All Nations.

Meetings held regularly on the first Monday in each month at 314 West 70th Street, New York City.

Officers for 1904.

President—A. E. Lawrence, 221 South Street, New York City.

Vice-Presidents—E. A. Wood and W. W. Norton.

Secretary—Raymond Wilcox, 226 N. Y. Produce Exchange Building, N. Y. City.

Treasurer—J. H. Petersen, 70 East 121st Street, New York City.

Exchange Superintendent—F. J. Schoof, 74 Bleeker Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Auction Manager—A. Herbst, 106 East 111th Street, New York City.

Librarian—W. J. Salva, 733 Tremont Avenue, New York City.

Trustees—Dr. L. M. Homburger; T. O. Young, Chairman, New Haven, N. Y.; A. B. Kay, A. M. Trujillo, E. A. Wood, J. C. Miller.

Official Journal—The Philatelic West, Superior, Nebraska.

For further information and application blanks address the Secretary.

PAY YOUR DUES FOR 1904—\$1.00.

TRY THE EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT, and KEEP HERBST (our Auction Manager) BUSY.

There was no meeting held Feb. 1st.

A resignation was received and will be brought before the next regular meeting. 19 members have paid their dues for 1904. If you are among those who have not paid do so at once. There was an error in last months report made by the publisher, the words "Of New York City" should not appear after the name of the society. Any members wishing any application blanks should write the secretary.

Mr. Schoof, the Exchange Supt. has some books on hand and would be glad to send them to any members who have signed the rules. Apply to the secretary for copy of the rules if you have not already received one.

Resignation of T. G. Gill, Lucknow, India accepted with regret.

Communications from E. W. Heusinger, L. Brodstone and F. J. Schoof read.

At Mr. Petersen's request the president appointed the following committee to award the prize of 1000 fiscals for the best notes on fiscals: A. E. Lawrence, Chm., Raymond Wilcox and Dr. L. M. Homburger.

The stamps were won by Rev. R. R. Thiele's article "Casual Notes on Divers Fiscal Stamps". Mr. Young's article received second consideration. Both will be published in the Official Journal.

See next months Official Journal Report for a full report of the Exchange Department, Auction Department, Secretary's report and list of paid up members and Financial Statement.

RAYMOND WILCOX,
Secretary.

The Existence of Man Upon the Earth Before the Glacial Period

By H Schumacher, M D, Walcott, Iowa

The existance of man prior to the glacial period has long been disputed, yet we find, here and there, evidences of man's task that are equal to the American Indian. The proof of this is undeniable in the examinations of the rocks found among the debris of the glacial period, which indicate the mechanical skill of man. In Europe the bones of man have been found with the remains of the great Irish elk, cave bear, wild bear, etc.. etc., even rude sketches of the Mammoth have been found engraved or carved upon the Mammoth's tusk and part of the horns of the Irish elk. This continent has been in its present condition for a period of 50,000 years or more.

The Niagara Falls have receded more than 246 miles in the Trenton rock formation, which alone would indicate a

period of over 100,000 years. All these dates point to an inhabitable condition prior to the glacial period.

The present condition must have existed at least 50,000 years. Then if the glacial period, to which geologists claim man did not belong, lasted for a similar time, and this rock, (which I shall later describe), having indications of being from the glacial drift, it would prove that man must have existed far more than a hundred thousand years.

In September 1903 I paid a visit to the old homestead of Mr. Eggert Puck, (now deceased), 4 miles east of Walcott, Iowa and strolling along the foot of a clay hill one hundred yards from a small creek, due north of the house, I picked up a piece of green stone, weighing not quite 15 ounces and was about to throw it away when I noticed an unmistakable groove worked upon it, also a couple of recent scratches made by harrow teeth, as this field had been under cultivation for the past forty years.

The rock is four inches wide, two and one half inches thick, and the bit end is diagonally worn away, from the front end of the groove of the left side to the back end of the groove of the right side. The hammer end is well preserved but has also glacial scratches on several places.

In first looking at this specimen it looks as an ordinary piece of rock but it is the same kind of stone of which the American Indian made his tomahawk, or axe, being easier to work than granite and still tough, or tenacious.

But now comes the best of the find: The front part of the axe has been caught in a glacial drift, and is plowed or ground away by a force that could only indicate a glacial pressure, since no man could imitate this scarification. There were a number of glacial indications in the shape of granite boulders, foreign to this locality, that were evidently left in the moraines or glacial

debris.

The groove on this stone was undoubtedly made by man. The front or bit was ground away by glacial force. No Indian would have chipped or worked at a stone just to try his primitive tools, and even had he done so it can plainly be seen that it was prior to the glacial erosion, proving conclusively its pre-glacial origin and therefore the pre-existence of man to the glacial period beyond any doubt.

I am willing to send this specimen to any archaeological authority for examination. It is an interesting find, genuine and in my opinion quite valuable.

Anyone interested in same may propound any question which I shall cheerfully answer.



NEBRASKA PHILATELIC SOCIETY. 222

Nebraska's Pride.

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy-Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc. Manager, C. L. Pond, Omaha, Box 584.
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245 S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262.
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg;
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

NEW MEMBERS

H McLncus, Fairbury, 1005 E St.
G H Blakeslee, Eddyville.

APPLICATIONS

AH Thorsen, Mead, Box 177, ref Thorsen
W J Heron, Bx 12, Pender, ref Brodstone
J R Dick, Firth, R F D 1, " "
H T Davis, Rushville, " "

REPORT OF SALES SUPT.

During the month of January 23 books were retired. They had a net value of \$1163.84. Sales were \$441.21. During same time 32 books were received and are still in circulation, net value \$1217.33. Drop us a card, if you want a trial circuit.

Your Obedient Servant,
H. WENDT, Dunlap, Ia.

Largest Stamp Society in America STAMP COLLECTOR'S Protective Assoc'n OF AMERICA

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandlee, Roanoke Va.
Vice-President—S. E. Moisan, Kankakee, Ill.
Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr
Sales Supt. and Auc. Mgr.—H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.

Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn
Trustees—Wilkinson, Estes, Hopson, Omaha
Official Organ—The WEST.

Any stamp collector of good recommendation may become a member by applying to secretary. Benefits: Mutual co-operation for the protection of honest collectors; for the furtherance of philately in general; annihilation of frauds and schemers by exposing them; collecting, investigating and assisting members in any way. Become a member and help us. With every complaint send 4c for purpose of investigation or adjusting your claim if possible to do so. A great many will pay rather that be published.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

First annual meeting of the society is suggested as the third week August 1904 at St. Louis, Mo. Any one objecting to this date will please notify the secretary. Several other stamp societies will also meet at St. Louis the same week.

E. CHANDLEE, Pres.

REPORT OF SUPT. SALES DEPT.

33 books in circ Feb. 1, 1904	\$182.49
10 " returned in Feb. value	79.77

23 books in circ Feb. 15, 1904	\$102.72
--------------------------------	----------

Members should send for blank books and use the Sales Dept. Many good stamps in circulation at bargain prices. Books 6 for 10 cents.

Members wishing to be put on circuit should notify me at once as I send out no circuits without being notified.

Respectfully,

W. P. KELLEY, Sales Supt.
3324 Peery Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

NEW MEMBERS

E Spinony, Great Fall, Mont, Bx 453; H Hoffman, Denver, Col, 142 Ellsworth St; C Warning, Bx 292, Knoxville, Tenn; S Pierce, St Francis' Minn; W Phillips, Bx 228, Brockville, Tenn; W Berrett, Middletown, N Y, 14 Benton Ave; J C Jay, Mt Pleasant, Ia; J Seybold, Syracuse, N Y; C E Hart, N Y City, 172 E 107 St; N Wells, Penn Yan, N Y; G H Dennis, Lakewood, N J; H E Morey, Boston, 31 Exchange St; E J Pardee, Phelps, N Y; C Doolittle, Syracuse, N Y, 901 E Fayette St; Rev E Stowe, Susquehanna, Pa; F Granfierre, St Louis, Mo, 2340 Pine St; S Cruse, Walkerville,

Ont, Can; J F Hinkson, San Juan, Porto Rico; J L Bisop, Selma, Ala; L H McCall, Oskaloosa, Ia, 604 3 Ave; G A Fleming, Sherman, Tex; W W Bullis, Brockville, Ont, Can, Bx 228; A L R Lanesberg, Ripton, Wis, Bx 727; R C Miller, Des Moines, Ia, Bx 126; F Bernd, Macon, Ga, 9650 Orange St.

Slusser reports that J Whitmean N Y has settled up. Sam P Hughes, Omaha has good list which will pay all advertisers to get. R Edwards, Minn complains of Sabe Cordova, Arg Rep, S Montgomery, Ga sends list which we will publish next month if he don't hear. R Worden, Ohio reports that Lyceun of Lexington, Ky is no other than Leaming, T Lotts, N Y complains of F Coreriere oi Pernambuco, Brazil, T Fagan, Kan complains of C Lawson of Chicago, Pickard and Slusser complain of a lady in Neb will give name in next number if no settlement is made.

American Souvenir Card Exchange Club

Miss M. Keller, President; R. W. Geauque, 96 Wall St., New York, Secy-Treas.

Dues: Domestic, 50c; Foreign 75c per year in advance.

Application blanks of Secretary.

NEW MEMBERS

79 Jno N Deglmann, Mankato, Minn; 80 Valentine Marco del Pont, Chacabuco 414, Buenos Aires, Argentina, S A; 81 Mary A Hopper, 125 Haledon Ave, Paterson, N J; 82 S S Winem, 1239 West Lake Ave, Los Angeles, Cal; 84 Mrs Geo Baum, 131 Haledon Ave, Paterson, N J; 84 Richard Oertel, Rose Hill, Harris Co, Tex; 85 Benjamin Solomon, 69 Eldert St, Brooklyn, N Y; 86 H D Baldwin, Hampton, Ia; 87 John A Lofgren, 7 Broadway, Maplewood, Mass; 88 H A Chapman, 203 Leith St, Dunedin, N Z; 89 J Lockwood, Springstone Ave, Ossett, Yorks, Eng.

Remittance by money order preferred. Members get the WEST for one year, five unused souvenir postal cards, membership card and have their name inserted in exchange column.

SPECIAL. Persons who are subscribers to the WEST may join for 25c and receive all but the WEST.

R. W. GEAUQUE, Secy-Treas.



Making Use of Clouds

By **Walter Cook**
Sacramento Cal.

Since white skies went out of fashion or rather since the photographers of the land came to realize that white paper did not give a true representation of the sky above our landscapes, cloud negatives have become almost a necessity. Fortunately they can be secured at almost any time of the year and the photographer who wishes to make his work as near perfect as possible is always on the lookout for a good "sky." While I do not wish to be as exacting as a writer whose article on the subject in one of the English magazines met my eyes a short time ago, I wish to make a plea for a little more care than is generally displayed in the combining of a sky negative with a landscape one. This English writer insists that a cloud effect secured at one time of the year will give a false rendition of nature if used with a landscape negative made at a different season. This I do not think is strictly true.

The one great fault from a technical point of view is the combining of a cloud effect from a negative of different quality than that from which the landscape is printed. Nothing is more displeasing to an eye blessed with good taste than a print in which the clouds are printed from a soft, thin

negative while the landscape below is from one that is hard and brilliant. Avoiding this fault which applies in all cases we may next turn to particular forms of clouds.

Striking as they no doubt are, the wind-tossed rain clouds that we are so fond of photographing, should be used very sparingly. They fit only a certain kind of landscape and then must be used when the landscape bears out the idea of a rain-swept or troubled phase of nature. The large masses of cumulus clouds do not belong with a landscape enveloped in a haze or mist; and the light cirrus clouds that we catch by pointing the camera well upwards, do not find a resting place on the low horizon as we sometimes see them printed into a picture. Long narrow bands of light in a dull sky do not fit well with a landscape in which every object proves that a bright sun was shining.

Guarding against these obviously false effects, there is little fear of going far wrong by ignoring the time of year during which the negatives were made. It is no doubt true that a certain kind of clouds may predominate at certain seasons of the year but I have cloud negatives made in mid-summer as well as in the winter months and I doubt if anyone could distinguish which was which. I have studied the prints from them very closely, and were it not for the bit of

landscape below, I would be entirely at a loss to say which were which.

Another fault that I wish to caution you against is allowing the sky to dominate the picture. A sky in a picture should bear the same secondary position as regards the whole as it does in nature. We rarely notice the sky when looking at a certain pleasing bit of landscape and yet it is quite easy to make the sky in a photograph so strong and assertive that it is the first thing that the eye sees in looking at the picture.

In closing I wish to mention a little hint that I got from Mr. Clute's department in a recent issue of *CAMERA CRAFT*. He says that the trimming has much to do with the effect, that is, whether a sunset or sunrise is portrayed. Trimmed with a low horizon and the upper part of the sky effect printed a little lighter, the effect is that of sunrise. The opposite treatment suggests to the mind the downward travel at the sun. I believe that this hint will prove of assistance in the production of sunrise and sunset effects.

An Undertimed Plate.

We all make negatives that are undertimed. We all know what kind of prints they produce, and yet there is a difference. A plate that piles on density in the high lights at the expense of detail in the shadows is hard to handle in the developer because it is not once out of ten times that the amateur knows his exposure has been insufficient until development has proceeded some little way and the opportunity to adjust matters is past. With absolutely correct exposure, suitable developer and only a normal negative in view, one make of plates is perhaps as good as another; but with occasional variations in exposure as certain as they are, one wants a plate like the Cramer brand, in which density more nearly gives detail the same opportunity in case of under exposure that it does in a correctly timed plate—F. J. C.



INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE.

With which is Amalgamated the World-wide Photo-Exchange

Organized for the purpose of affording its members easy facilities for exchanging photographic prints, and for mutual improvement in the art. President, G. C. Kirkland, - Denver, Colo. Vice-President, A. T. Brown, - Acton, Ont. Can Sec'y, Fayette J. Clute, - San Francisco, Cal

Yearly dues, including exchange notice and subscription to the monthly journal, "The International Photographic Exchange," 25 cents. All who subscribe for, or renew their subscription to the WEST, by sending 50c to Secretary Fayette J. Clute, Marye Terrace, San Francisco, Cal. will be allowed an exchange notice, and full membership in the I. P. E., and receive both publications for one year. Unless the above rule is complied with and subscriptions sent to the secretary, membership cannot be obtained without payment of regular dues.

Note.—W. W. P. E. and I. P. E. members are cautioned not to write these new members with out first consulting the regular "Exchange Notices" accompanying their names in the current issue of the "PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE" as many of them desire only a certain class of prints, lantern slides or stereoptic pictures, and will not honor requests in which such notices have been ignored.

New Members.

- 567—Martha M. Cilley, R. F. D. No. 1, Cleves, Ohio.
- 568—Harvey S. Jones, 2268 Seventh Ave., New York, N. Y.
- 569—J. B. Stauter, 1444, Champa St., Denver, Colo.
- 570—Ward A. Butcher, Ironton, Colo.
- 571—Milton Waide 164, Fifth Ave., New York.
- 572—Wm. D. Bennett, Navarre, Ohio.
- 573—Mrs. Hattie L. Sanborn, R. F. D. No. 1, Barnet, Vt.
- 574—Chas. R. Morris, 4914 Albany St. Washington, D. C.
- 575—S. Munnell, Jr., Morganza, Pa.
- 576—Forrest Shreve, Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.
- 577—Marsena J. Parker, Care "Register," Mobile, Ala.
- 578—Gustavus A. Brandt, 631 Maryland Ave., S. W. Washington, D. C.

- 579—Mrs. T. A. Jones, Box 16, Alcott P. O. Denver, Colo.
- 280—Theron Hayward, Redlands, Cal.
- 581—William A. Slough, Jr., R. F. D. No. 3, Springfield, Ohio.
- 582—W. L. Newman, Panaca, Nev.
- 583—Mrs. Warren C. Hill, 616 Sixth St., Niagara Falls, N. Y.
- 584—J. M. Struthers, 315, East Thirty-fourth St., New York, N. Y.
- 585—Wm. E. Wilson, 12, St. Emanuel St., Mobile, Ala.
- 586—F. S. Bisbee, Everett, Mass.
- 587—R. W. Scott, Port Townsend, Wash.
- 588—Frederick Roche; 109 Falmouth St., Boston, Mass.
- 589—Frank P. Janke, 17 North Penn St., Indianapolis, Ind.
- 590—S. A. Malkiel, 116 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.
- 591—C. Carl Cox, Loveland, Ohio.
- 592—L. L. Potter, Cairo, Ills.
- 593—Carl J. Spaethe, 1917 Congress St., St. Louis; Mo.
- 594—John A. Holbrook, Bartlett Springs, Cal.
- 595—Harry L. Williams, 2447 Broadway, Cleveland, Ohio.
- 596—C. E. Miller, Box 475, Faribault, Minn.
- 597—Mrs. Frank W. Rothaker, 436 McDougal St., Fostoria, Ohio.
- 598—This number held for a foreign member whose application blank has not yet returned.
- 599—Edw. G. Koonz. 415 South Garfield Ave., Burlington, Ia.
- 600—H. A. Mark, Alliance, Neb.
- 601—J. C. Preston, M. D. Buffalo, Kan.
- 602—H. E. Weaver, Winder Building, Washington, D. C.
- 603—E. Wager-Smith, Box 539, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 604—Peter Printz, 728 Ninth St., N. E. Washington, D. C.
- 605—Miss Nellie M. Wright, Stratton Farm, Brookfield, Vt.
- 606—Carl A. Richter. 1379 South Thirteenth St., Denver, Colo.
- 607—Louis Larson, P. O. Drawer 27, St. Augustine, Fla.
- 608—Dr. F. D. McGrattan, Port Perry, Ontario, Canada.
- 609—G. Goettling, 2 Westland Ave., Boston Mass.
- 610—Geo. O. Angerstein Box 5 Holbrook, Ariz.

Flashlight Portraiture.

As the season for flashlight photography approaches many attempts will be made to photograph interiors, single portraits and groups of several figures by its means, and very successful results may be obtained if the beginner will go about it in the proper way and will first learn something of the powers and limitations of the flash-light powder he is using and become familiar with the lighting produced by a certain amount of powder at a given distance and direction from his sitter.

After having selected the kind of flash powder he prefers to use, let him make two or three experimental lightings and exposures upon a light colored bust, or failing that, a water pitcher or light colored vase, placing the selected object in the same general position that would be occupied by his sitter if he were making a portrait. Two or three plates exposed and developed under these conditions will aid him materially in his preparations for work of a similar kind with living figures.

A very important thing to consider is the light and shade in your picture. This should be arranged so as not to allow it to be full of patchy spots. A picture full of spots is uninteresting, therefore concentrate your light and shade, and you will see that your picture is interesting and full of breath and character.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

APPLICATIONS.

- 670 T Davis, Rushville.
- 671 J R Dick, Firth, R F D 1
- 672 G G Bruckert, Bruning
- 673 Wackerman, Omaha, 1115 S 30 Ave
- 674 E Perrin, Rogers
- 675 C H Garner, Auburn
- 676 J A Heron, L Box 12, Pender
- 678 A H Thorsen Box 177, Mead.
- 779 N Theorsen, Omaha 818 S 10 St.

NEW MEMBERS.

- 659 M Goodrich, Omaha, 2723 Merith Ave.
- 661 G Blakeslee, Eddyville
- 663 G Bennet, Elgin
- 664 Rob Resler, Grand Island
- 665 C Sweet, Palmyra
- 666 G Koehke, Plattsmouth
- 667 Harry Letton, Fairbury
- 668 Geo B Mair, Broken Bow
- 669 H McLucas, Fairbury

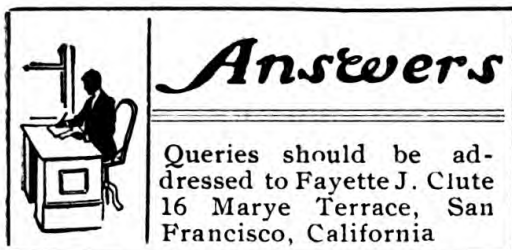
A Safeguard.

It is a good plan when one has a valuable negative, or one that it is extremely difficult to duplicate, to make from it, before putting it into general use or packing it away, a contact transparency. From such a transparency new negatives may be made at any time if the original becomes broken or damaged, and the possession of such a duplicate will often be found of great advantage. The making of such a transparency is extremely simple and may be done in the following manner: First select a printing frame of the same size of the negative to be reproduced, and into this frame place the negative with its film side up, exactly as if a silver print were to be made. Instead, however, of using silver paper for the transparency place upon the negative, film side down, a dry plate

of slow speed, covering it with a printing pad, replace the back of the frame and clamp it in position as if for ordinary printing. This, of course, must be done in the dark room by aid of the ruby light. The frame containing negative and plate may then be covered with the focusing cloth folded in several thicknesses and taken from the dark room into an adjoining room, the focusing cloth quickly removed and the plate exposed to the action of an ordinary gas burner for a period of from thirty seconds to two minutes, holding the frame at a distance of ten feet from the burner. After exposure, quickly re-cover the frame, remove the plate and develop in just the same way as for a negative, carefully washing and fixing after development.

The length of exposure will depend wholly upon the destiny of the negative, the strength of the light and the distance of the frame from the light during printing, all of which must be first ascertained by trial plate or strips. The farther away from the gas that the printing frame is held during exposure, the softer will be the positive, while the nearer it is to the frame the harder will be the contrasts.

The making of transparencies is extremely interesting, and provides a capital opportunity for a long evening's work with a collection of one's best negatives.



W. H. B.: THIN NEGATIVES AND SELF-DEVELOPING PLATINUM PAPER: This correspondent wishes to know how he can get the best results on this class of papers from thin negatives. Printing them in the shade will improve them, printing them under a sheet of blue glass will also add to their appearance. Printing should not be carried so far with this kind of negative; as soon as the image is slightly visible it is considered enough. Stronger negatives may be printed until the shadows appear quite plainly.

J. B. W.: LENS FOR PORTRAITURE: This correspondent wishes to take up portraiture, and inquires as to the lens most suitable for this class of work. This is rather a large order to fill, without knowing what kind of portraiture is to be attempted. If a slightly prolonged exposure is no great objection, the lens already in the camera which my correspondent has, a long focus 4x5, will do as well as any. The so-called portrait lenses are only preferable for portraiture on account of their speed. The longer the focus you can use the more pleasant will be your results. If you desire to have as sharp a focus as possible on every part of the subject, a long focus lens will require a great deal of stopping down.

If I were going to take up portrait photography simply for my own pleasure, I would get one of the second-hand portrait lenses that all the dealers carry at such low prices, get it on trial, and either get one of long focus or find one that would allow of using one of the combinations singly. These lenses work at about f-6, and the back combination should require about double the exposure.

H. DeM.: THE PERSULPHATE PRODUCER: Ammonium persulphate has the very useful property of attacking the density of the negative before affecting the half-tones or shadow detail. A solution of 25 grains to the ounce is about right strength, and negative should be placed in it without previous soaking. Action will be slow to start and tray should be rocked constantly to insure even results. I prefer a clear glass tray, and work with a lamp set low so that the process of reduction may be watched through the tray by slightly lifting it in front of the lamp. The negative will require close watching after the persulphate begins work, and the action should be stopped just before the exact reduction desired is reached. This is accomplished by placing the plate (without rinsing) in a 10 per cent. solution of sodium sulphite for ten minutes, after which it should be washed. I will add that after trying three different brands of persulphate without finding one that had the least action on the plate, I got some of Merck's and found it acted satisfactorily.

This club meets in St. Louis August 23 to 26. Over 8000 members with other clubs that meet. Details in full later.

American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.
Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
ship card sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.



- | | | | |
|-------|--|------|--|
| 474 | H W Beers Chicago Ill 791 North Hamlin Ave | 6 | J T C Cranston Williamantic Ct |
| 6 | F O Nickman Providence R I 161 Hudson St | 7 | E J Post Tampa Fla |
| 7 | Dr Mitchell Portsmouth Ohio R F D 2 | 8 | F Bernd Macon Ga 865 Orange St |
| 8 | G A Holly Cleveland Ohio 1683 Harvard St | 9 | C G Smith Oxford Idaho |
| 9 | J H Winchell Painesville O R F D 3 | 4780 | W F Heron Pender Neb Bx 12 |
| 4750 | J Bouroy Beliot Wis 506 S Race St | 1 | J Hinkson San Juan Porto Rico Bx 838 |
| 1 | F Wallace Chicago 811 E 44th St | 2 | G Matlock Laramie Wyo Bx 581 |
| 2 | A Goff Farmdale O R F D 1 | 3 | J L Bisop Selma Ala |
| 3 | W Overman Gerrentown Ind | 4 | J T Mason Downville Calif Bx 93 |
| 4 | R F Collins Danville N H Bx 33 | 5 | F M Williams Phoenix Ariz |
| 5 | Sareh Burke Neosho Mo | 6 | F Terrel Los Angeles Cal 769 E 15 St |
| 6 | H Hiatt Edmond Okla | 7 | Fred Vanderwork Grover Colo. |
| 7 | S W Tanner Burger Okla | 8 | S Jones Lebanon N H Bx 783 |
| 8 | J W Haller Albany N Y 101 Livingston Ave | 9 | S B Fish Butler Ill |
| 9 | A Fitch Junction City Ark | 4790 | H Buland Morris Ill Bx 143 |
| 4760 | R J Thomas Hartford Ont Canada | 1 | G Gustafson Rockford Ill Bx 6 |
| 1 | W A Wood Hillsboro N B Canada | 2 | F F Hill Mt Veron Ia |
| 2 | W C Raymond Bridgewater Vt | 3 | R J Relf Decorah Ia Box 315 |
| 3 | W L Chessman Eaton Colo | 4 | R T Gentry Sonora Ky |
| 4 | B A Gibson Washingtonville Pa | 5 | B L Messer Baltimore Md 1514 W Baltimore St |
| 5 | J R Redburg Hooper Utah | 6 | C K Miller Lowell Mass c-o B&M |
| 6 | K Harmoon Oamarn N Zealand Whitehart Hotel | 7 | D M Merrill St Paul Minn |
| 7* | Susie Harvey North Cambridge Mass 93 Richards Ave. | 8 | H M Lucas Fairbury Nebr |
| 8* | C M Lee Ironville N Y | 9 | Ellen Parker Newt NH Bx 270 |
| 9* | Rose Rindskoff Brooklyn N Y 699 Madison | 4880 | G H Blake Jersey City N J 12 Highland |
| 4771* | M D Ray Hammondsport N Y | 1 | A H Fitch Hillsdale N Y |
| 2* | Grace Christian Canfield Vic Australia | 2 | H Mc Allister Lexington Org |
| 3* | G G Ryder Malden Mass | 3 | Mrs G Rogers Providence R I 1466 Westminster |
| 4* | J Park Gaybell Denver Colo 51 W Cedar St Jct | 4 | H Jessen white So Dak Bx 207 |
| 5* | J R Dick Firth Neb R F D 1 | 5 | R R Taylor Custer S Dak Bx 253 |
| | | 6 | G A Fleming Sherman Tex |
| | | 7 | H Cohen Salt Lake Utah Bx 1384 |
| | | 8 | Rev Van Blarcom Washington Vt |
| | | 4809 | ww Petty Point Pleasw Va Bx 305 |
| | | | *Exchange Souvenir cards. |

This is the Largest Collectors Monthly of America for Size and Circulation

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge;
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist.

The Curio Monthly and Photo-Exchange Bulletin

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 18000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Univertal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, International Stamp Collectors Association, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Twin City Philatelic Society, Texas Philatelic Association, and

New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Stamp Collectors Association, etc.

Vol. XXVI.

MARCH 1904

No. 2

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 2825 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Manchester, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT: C. A. NAST, Cor. 16 and Curtis, Denver,

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOCARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Manchester, Wis.

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 10 face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 26 prominent societies. THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER. The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

Have Your Ad Copy in Early. You Get Better Display and Position. Try It.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

The New England Stamp Co advise that the notorious Wolle was arrested in Boston recently, principally through the efforts of Mr. Batchelder, who devoted the whole of one day to running him down and starting on the war-path just as soon as they learned that Wolle was in town. He had a tremendous lot of faked stuff with him.



From A. E. Carr we learn of the death of N. La Chapelle. Mr. Chapelle resided in Lynn, Mass., and was known as one of the old time collectors. He was called away at the age of 25. His untimely death is mourned by a host of philatelic friends.



A page advertiser in the February WEST reports over 570 replies. Remember—"To advertise successfully, advertise in the WEST".



Our writer's Contest is very popular. Over 80 contestants have submitted articles to date. Every reader of the WEST is eligible. A rare opportunity to get a valuable prize without cost. Our regular contributors are not permitted to enter this competition.



We are contemplating several special society numbers. A special edition and a distinctive cover design will be used for each society of which the WEST is official journal. Society secretaries are invited to write for particulars.



In the last number is given the names of the prize winners in our second opinion contest. Our dealer friends should get some valuable ideas from this as showing what readers consider the best or most interesting style of advertising.



For the benefit of many inquiries and the victims of the World's Fair joker, we repeat: There is no premium on any silver dollar of the current type, except 1895, with no mint mark (coined at Phila.), when in proof condition, commands about \$6.00.



Printers Ink says: excitement was recently created in London by the appearance on the streets of six walking pillar mail boxes like those used for postal purposes, each containing a sandwich man provided with an umbrella. This odd advertisement was employed to announce an exhibition of postal cards given by a Souvenir Card Co there. The police intervened, but no law was violated, and the ad was permitted to travel about.



The residents of Korea had planned to have a celebration on the third anniversary of the coronation of their emperor, but cholera broke out in Seoul and the plans were thwarted. Eight thousand of commemorative stamps had been issued and then the order was countermanded.



THE GREAT CAKEWALK OF THE RULERS

Taken from Paris Paper—By E. Spinony.

1. Nicolas of Montenegro; 2, Christian IX of Denmark; 3, Moussaffer-ed-Din of Persia; 4, Prince of Wales (Tere-Neuve); 6, Hamshar of Tirmoor; 5, Ferdinand of Bulgaria; 7, Charles of Roumania; 8, George of Crete; 9, Oscar of Sweden; 10, Francois Joseph of Austria; 11, Carlos of Portugal; 12, Alphonse XIII of Spain; 13, Hamid of Zanzibar; 14, Victor-Emmanuel III of Italy; 15, Chalulonkorn of Siam; 16, Albert of Monaco; 17, Wilhelmine of Holland; 18, Edward VII of England; 19, Coleman of Liberia.

In No. 2 of the REVISTA DE LA SOCIEDAD FILATELICA CUBANA Dr. Barreras, the foremost authority on the stamps of Cuba, has an exhaustive article on the $Y\frac{1}{4}$ surcharge of Cuba in 1855-57. The article is well fortified with official documents; it appears that the issue was 200,000, that they were surcharged in entire sheets of 170 by the

Arazoza Printing office (which received \$200 for the work), and that this first supply was exhausted in 1857. The second issue on the 2 reales of 1857—was in sheets of the same size. The office used two different Y's for the 1855 issue and a third one for the 1857 issue. For purposes of verification the author presents an enlargement of the Y and exact measurements; the angle suspended by the two arms of the Y should be 27° $28'$ for the second 1855 Y, while the measurements are as follows:

	1855.	1857.
	1st Y	2nd Y 3rd Y
Height of letter	$5\frac{3}{4}$ mm	$4\frac{1}{2}$ mm $5\frac{1}{4}$ mm
Height of foot of letter to point of angle	$2\frac{1}{2}$ mm	2mm $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm
Width of heavy arm	$\frac{3}{4}$ mm	$\frac{3}{4}$ mm 1mm
Opening of angle	17° $19'$	27° $28'$ 25°

This little paper brings more original work than many more pretentious journals and deserves American patronage.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the pages of those below, are requested to send a copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst gebeten ein Tauschexemplar regelmassig an den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont pries d'envoyer un exemplaire en echage a l'adresse sous-donnee.

Deseame recibir esemplares de cambio de las publicaciones filatelicass estranjerrs a la adresa enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149, Manchester Wis, U S A

First on the list is not a paper but a pamphlet which bears the pretentious title of "The International Directory of Philatelic Literature Collectors, Dealers and Publishers." It is published by Victor Marsh, 389 Brixton Road, London S. W. England; price 1 shilling and three pence. On 66 pages the booklet gives a good deal of information on the philatelic literature of the world. Papers by Judge Suppantshitsch, Dr. Thebussum, Dr. Rommel and the present writer deal with various phases of our literature and six pages are taken up with the directory proper. All interested in philatelic literature in any way will do well to procure the little book; it fills a place of its own.

In No. 280 of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* I find the interesting information that last year a movement was on foot to provide the French postage stamps with Sunday labels like the Belgian stamps. An investigation was made which revealed the fact that in Belgium these labels effect a saving of only about ten percent in the Sunday work of the mail carriers. It was estimated that the change on the French stamps would involve an initial expense of about \$16,000 and

hereafter an annual increased expense of \$18,000, chiefly for additional paper. In view of this the idea was dropped for the present. Our mail carriers surely ought to appreciate their Sunday rest when they contrast it with the European work on Sunday.

Much indignation has been aroused among French stamp dealers by the mysterious reappearance of certain French Colonial remainders which were supposed to have been burned, whereupon the dealers raised the price. It is charged that they were stolen from the lot ordered to be burned, and the French dealers even lodged formal complaint with the authorities, but nothing has been done about it.

M. Maury's paper has of late made a specialty of stamp caricatures; in No. 280 there is a most amusing travesty of the present high values design of France. The arch in the background has become that of a bridge across the Seine; the figure of the republic has been metamorphosed into a washerwoman reclining from her work; at the right a washtub has been cleverly introduced and the shield at the left bearing the figure of value has, with very slight alterations, become a steaming wash-boiler. The effect is extremely comical, all the more as at first glance one hardly notices the alterations.

In No. 282 it is reported that France is about to issue stamps in booklets like ours. The idea seems to be considered original with France; M. Maury fails to remember that similar booklets are already in use in the Netherlands, in Hungary, in New Zealand, in Tasmania—possibly in other countries.

The design for the new stamps for New Caledonia is reproduced enlarged. It is quite pretty thus, but it is said that in reduction the fine details have

all disappeared. France is really having the worst kind of luck with her colonial issues; each succeeding one turns out homlier than those before it—chiefly through the poor engraving and printing.

The new Haitian issue gives rise to inquiries as to the biographies of the notables there depicted. M. Maury makes it the occasion for rehearsing a dark chapter in French history; the loss of Haiti. In 1802 Napoleon sent General Laclere to subdue the insurrection in Haiti with 21,000 men. Toussaint L'Ouverture and Christophe were the leaders of the revolution, but were both forced to surrender; the former died as a prisoner in France in 1803. The French army lost heavily by disease and the insurgents again rose under Dessalines; in 1803 he proclaimed himself emperor under the name of Jaques I. and raved with terrible cruelty against the whites, of whom he is said to have killed and caused to be killed some 50,000. In 1806 he was murdered by Christophe.—Petion at first fought with the French against Toussaint L'Ouverture, but later joined Dessalines. After his death he proclaimed himself president in southern Haiti, while Christophe became King of the northern part.—It is noteworthy, by the way, that the French misfortunes in Haiti had much to do with Napoleon's anxiety to rid himself of Louisiana, which bid fair to become a similar elephant on his hands.—The biography of President Nord is also given, but too long for reproduction; he is 84 years of age and has had a decidedly checkered career.

I am greatly pleased to welcome that valuable Spanish paper, Madrid Filatelico, back into our ranks. It has always ranked with the best of its class

and its suspension a while back was much regretted. I wish it a long and useful career in its new estate.—The serial publication of the history of Spanish stamps is also resumed with No. 73, it is now up to page 168.

The PHILATELIC CHRONICLE & ADVERTISER of Birmingham has made a change in its makeup; the ADVERTISER is now combined with the reading matter. I quote the following:

"The following curios odd values appear amongst obsolete and current British colonial stamps: 4 d Bermudas, Barbadoes etc.; 4½ d Malta; 6½ d Newfoundland; 7d Virgin and Leeward Islands; 7½ d New South Wales, New Zealand etc.; 10d Great Britain, New South Wales etc.; 12d Canada; 12½ d New South Wales.

The list is rather incomplete even in British currency stamps; if other currencies were regarded the list of odd values would be a long one.

SZEKULA BRIEFMARKEN—VERKEHR has moved back to Budapest, Hungary, and will hereafter be issued from that city.

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN has blossomed out in a new cover design. The noted philatelist whose portrait appears in the January number is Mr. Breitfuss, of St. Petersburg, whose collection ranks third in the world—perhaps second. Just think of a collection which is best described by enumerating the four stamps which are all it lacks: Mauritius Post Office 2d; British Guiana 1st issue, 2c rose, and 1856, 1c; Hawaii; 1st issue, 2c!! But I suppose we get just as much fun out of our few paltry thousands as he does out of his.

What you might call microscopic

philately is found in Mr; Pooles study of the 1893 provisionals of the Seychells. He distinguishes six different settings of the surcharging type for the 3 cents on 4 cents and the number of raised letter, broken letter etc. varieties is legion. I quote the following as to the manner of surcharging:

"The stamps were surcharged thirty at a time, so that each sheet of 120 had to go under the printing press four times. This can be seen at once by examining a pane of sixty stamps, for the shifted and broken letter varieties occupy identical positions on the top and bottom blocks of thirty. To facilitate the work of overprinting the margin was torn off many of the sheets so that the panes then only had to be folded in two before being surcharged. In some cases, too, the panes were torn in half before being surcharged so that these stamps would be sent from the printers in blocks of thirty (five rows of six.)"

In setting two only five stamps of the thirty are normal, all the others showing minor defects! To follow this kind of collecting, one has to buy every new provisional in entire sheets—interesting, but a trifle expensive.

From the article on the stamps of Greece I quote the following relative to the stamps surcharged A M and the new set with those initials in the upper corners:

"These letters stand for AXIA METALIKI which means 'Gold Value' and signify that they would only be sold by the Post Office for gold and not in exchange for the depreciated paper currency. They were used only for international parcels and money orders."

The STAMP COLLECTOR of Birmingham is improving considerably in its

makeup, being now on plate paper altogether. The January and February numbers have an interesting paper on the stamps of Lagos. In No. 1 there is an illustrated paper on the garter water-marks of the British stamps, written by the wellknown American writer, Mr. C. L. Annan. He illustrates five varieties: small, medium, large with buckle downwards, large with buckle upwards, large with heavy lines.—The writer of this review is also represented by a paper on the Why and Wherefore of Various Stamps (the beginning of a series on this topic). In the February number there is an interesting article on the reprints and forgeries of the 1869-1883 issues of the Transvaal. I quote as follows:

"There is only a small quantity of these reprints, which can be classified in the three following issues:

"Issue of 1871, 3 pence

" " " 1871, 6 "

" " " 1883, 3 "

"All other stamps of the Transvaal described as reprints are nothing else than forgeries. — — — As every collector knows the fixed stamps of the Transvaal consisted of the following two types:

"Type I—Eagle with outstretched wings.

" " II—Re-engraved Eagle type (with downward wings).

"It is with the second type that we have to deal, as they served for reprints."

The first reprints of the 3d were made by A. Otto, the printer of the originals, who had retained a plate of the 3d. They are described as follows:

"These stamps are to be recognized by their brighter colors, gumming and quality of paper. The colors of the originals are lilac-blue, without any tinge of red; the reprints are reddish-lilac and grey-lilac. They

"are also found in fancy colors, such as ultramarine dull rose, ochre etc. The reprints are also known tete-beche; the plates used for the original stamps of this value contain no tete-beche.—The paper is thinner or more transparent than that of the originals and the impression of the design is not so noticeable on the reverse side as on the reprints, on which the design is very clear when turning the stamp. The reprints are: 3d lilac-rose and lilac-grey, imperforate and rouletted 15, 15½."

The 6d of this issue was also reprinted by Otto (the plates never were sent out). These are dangerous.

"The only difference is that, whereas the originals are printed in very light blue, the reprints are printed in blue and milky blue and fancy colors. Of this issue the most reliable best is the cancellation. The forged cancellation is seldom, if ever, impressed, but generally lithographed; the obliterations on the originals are nearly always sunk into the paper and visible on the reverse."

"In 1883 Otto made reprints of the 3d, eagle type, issued at that time in the Transvaal. Of these reprints the rose color of the paper is too bright. Otto used the paper which was still in his possession, but differed from the paper used for the 1877 issue 6d blue on rose (left over by the British and used by the Transvaalers). The printing of the reprints is in black brown or rusty black, instead of grey-black or jet black as in the originals. The paper of the reprints is much thinner against the thick white wove paper of the originals; the gum is white and smooth in the reprints against the yellowish color of the originals. — — — The reprints of the 3d or-

ange on white are very well executed and resemble the originals most-ly. The paper of the originals is thick with yellowish gum, whereas the paper of the reprints is thinner and with white gum. The orange color is darker than that of the originals; the originals are not so finely executed, they are more or less blurred; the reprints are very finely executed."

In No. 603 of the ILLUSTRIRTES BRIEFMARKEN-JOURNAL the interesting article descriptive of Nicaragua is brought to a close; such historical articles have their place in our press. From number 604 I quote the following:

"We hear that the German 5 mark stamp is shortly to be changed in color, because the present colors, black and deep red give a very clear photographic reproduction, so that the danger of forgery by a modern process of reproduction (photogravure, heliotype etc.) has become too great. It is therefore intended to use so-called 'neutral' colors, which make a sharp photo-mechanical reproduction impossible. For the frame a bluish violet or bluish green and for the central group of princes a lilac rose will probably be selected."

The following relative to the high values in use in Persia will be of interest:

"Stamps over 5 Kraus are not used on letters; higher values serve to Frank postal packets and are retained by the postoffices. The high toman values are really receipts for money paid in; they are pasted on money orders and sent to the paying office, where the receiver cashes them in."

Casual Notes on Divers Fiscal Stamps.

It is small wonder that fiscal stamps are gaining in popularity among collectors, for the field is full of fascination. A large and well ordered collection of revenue stamps seldom fails to interest even the rankest Philistine for whom postage stamps often have little charm: the large size, elaborate engraving, rich colors and high face values of so many fiscals usually attract attention. Likewise is the collector well repaid in their collection, for this field is still full of surprises and no end of discoveries remain to be made.

These notes chronicle no discoveries, but merely draw your attention to certain points in my foreign revenues which may perhaps interest you, dear reader, in their collection. Take the matter of languages. Postage stamp collectors have, of course, the quadrilingual stamps of Eastern Roumelia under Turkish government: then there are also the bilingual stamps of Belgium: certain issues of Switzerland, of Finland, of Turkey, of Persia, of Egypt, and others too numerous to mention here. But the fiscalist can also produce multilingual stamps, though less numerous, as most revenues serve only within the country of their issue and thus have less occasion for foreign inscriptions. The stamps of Bosnia and the Herzegovina are an example. The postage stamps bear no inscription whatever, so as not to offend the susceptibilities of any one of the many races mixed up in this interesting corner of the globe: the fiscals evade the difficulty by the opposite expedient: putting on the stamps as many different inscriptions as their size will permit. The two issues of 1879 bear only two inscriptions, one in Bosnian and one in Turkish. The issue of 1886 bears three of them: one in Bosnian, one in Turkish, and one in

Servian. Surely that ought to be sufficient. The idea ought to be adopted for the revenue stamps of Austria proper: it might tend to assuage the conflict of languages raging there. By the way, the 1879 issues of Bosnia plainly show a desire to imitate the design of the Turkish revenue stamps which had been current there before its occupation by the Austrians after the Berlin Congress: Compare them with the 1875 and 1879 issues of Turkish fiscals. The latter issues of Turkey are nearly all bilingual like the postage stamps. French is the other language here also. These later designs seem to have been drawn by the same artist who designed the two last issues of postage stamps for Turkey: they show the same excessive arabesque ornamentation with very small inscriptions and figures of value. Another bilingual country is Finland. The 1866 and 1883 issues show both Finnish and Swedish inscriptions, but no Russian whatever. I presume that Russian oppression has now changed all that, and foisted Russian fiscals on unhappy Finland same as it has done for its postage stamps. The same change as has come over the postage stamps of Belgium in late years is also apparent on its revenue stamps. The older issues are worded entirely in French, but with the gradual gain in preponderance of Flemish it has made its appearance on the fiscal stamps of late years also. On the poster stamps (affiches) the change was made in 1886: On the bill stamps in 1891. Bilingual inscriptions are also found on some of the Swiss Cantonal fiscals—Biel (Bienne) in the French part of Bern comes to my mind at this writing—and on various Eastern issues like those of Siam, some of the Indian Feudatory States, and some Persian stamps, also the Egyptian Salt Tax stamps. No doubt there are others which I do not remember just now.

It is of special interest to the collect-

or in looking over his stamps to trace the same design in various adaptations from one country to the other. Thus the Servian fiscals of 1891 (arms in circle figure of value in large tablet below) are almost an exact copy of the French "Quittances, Recus et Decharges" issue of 1881, except that the French head of liberty has been replaced by the Servian double-headed eagle. Similarly the Belgian "Affiches" fiscals of 1876 and 1886 are fairly close copies of the French "Dimension" stamps of 1872, while this in turn is merely an adaptation of the French newspaper stamps, familiar to all collectors. Other French types have been imitated elsewhere. Thus the French "Effets de commerce" issues of 1864 (Napoleon) and 1872 (star) have been quite closely imitated in the "Statistische Gebuehr stamps" of the German Empire of 1880 (except for the large figure in the center) and in the Portuguese "IMPOSTO de SELLO" issue of 1868 (here the head is replaced by the arms.) The Plakzegel" issues of the Netherlands, issues 1870 to 1883, are another adaptation of this design, also with arms replacing the head. The French issue of 1874 with inscription "Enregt. Timbre Domez" and group (Commerce and Abundance) at the top has also found imitators. One is the fiscal set of Monaco issued in 1888: the arms of the principality with supporters replace the allegorical group. By the way, the two monks as supporters and the motto Deo Juvante (by the aid of God) strike one rather oddly when one remembers that Monaco lives almost entirely on the revenue derived from the gambling den at Monte Carlo. Another imitation, though less plainly so, is found in the Swedish fiscals of 1882: The arms here also take the place of the group. The excessively plain "Effet de Commerce" issue of Belgium dating from 1857

forms the basis of a number of imitations, more or less close. Somewhat more elaborate than the original, is the issue of Luxemborg 1867. Then the same idea was utilized by a number of Swiss Cantons for their fiscals: they all bear a certain family resemblance. Two such are the "Actes Administratifs" and Effets de Commerce" issues of Valais (or Wallis,) dating from 1875 and 1870 respectively. Another is the 1875 issue of Luzerne, still another the 1865 issue for the various "Bureaux de Enregistrement" of the canton of Fribourg (or Freiburg), and still another the 1865 issue of Geneva. Several Swiss cantonal fiscals are embossed and in their get-up remind one strongly of the postage set of Switzerland. These postage stamps were first printed at Muenchen (Bavaria) by the same establishment then printing the stamps of Bavaria: it is possible that these fiscals came from the same firm. One such is the 1862 "Timbre de Commerce" set of Freiburg: another the Genevan fiscals of 1860: another the 1855 issue of Ticino (or Tessin), and still another the 1864 "Effets de Commerce" set of Vaud (or Waadt). The canton of Basel-Stadt in its 1884 issue for "Obligationen & Actien-Stemple" has also borrowed the design, but this time from the familiar German "Wechselstempel" of 1882 (arms in left upper corner)

The long Foreign Bill stamps of Great Britain have several counterparts in the fiscals of other countries. The long "Imposto de Sello" set of Portugal issued in 1864 and the Italian "Marca de Bollo" set of the same year are both not exactly copies of the British Bill stamps, but still show an unmistakable family likeness, which is not surprising considering that they were all made by the same firm, De la Rue & Co., of London. This same

family likeness is traceable through all the fiscals coming from this firm including those of India, Cape of Good Hope and other colonies, as well as other fiscals of Italy.

Other Italian fiscals, e. g. the long stamps of 1865 with head of Victor Emanuel, the smaller stamps of the same year also bearing the King's head, and the Sardinian "Passaporto" set of 1858, show by their embossing and general execution that they came from the establishment of Signor Mattraire who printed the Sardinian and early Italian postage stamps.

The control stamps printed by the Spanish Sociedad del Timbre in 1875 and 1878 show by their splendid line engraving that they came from the workshops of the American Bank Note Co. of New York. Outside of these, Spanish fiscals are in a class by themselves, resembling no others under the sun. The labels figuring as Spanish fiscals from 1877 to the present year should properly be placed in poster collections.

Another case of family resemblance is found between the fiscals of Bulgaria and those of Russia: compare for instance the Bulgarian sets of 1879 and 1889 with the Russian fiscals of 1875. The resemblance here is also explained by the fact that all of these come from the same establishment, the Russian Government printing office. This establishment also printed the Bulgarian postage stamps at that period, and these show the same resemblance to the Russian postage stamps.

The work of this establishment, by the way, is simply superb, and the Russian fiscals, e. g. the large tobacco stamps of 1871, are amongst the most gorgeous of our collections; the pages devoted to them in the albums are sure to attract the eye of even a non-collector.

These few casual observations draw attention only to some peculiarities of design in revenue stamps. Much more might be written on the same subject and still more on the absorbing subject of the taxes represented by them and the historical interest possessed by many of them: I hope to take up these subjects at a later opportunity. Meanwhile I hope that these few notes may serve to call the attention of such readers as do not yet collect fiscals, to the charms of this branch of philately.

The above won the prize of 1,000 Var. of fiscal stamps offered by J. H. Peterson for the best notes on fiscal stamps. Awarded by committee of The Philatelic Fiscal Society.

Raymond Wilcox, Secy.

Age does not make a stamp valuable. The first one-penny red, issued by Great Britain in 1840, is still a very common stamp, because it continued its use for many years, and millions of them were printed. Scarcity is the keynote of value. Stamps whose issues have been limited as to number and time of service are naturally scarce, and therefore become valuable for the simple reason that there are not enough to go around among the stamp collectors who want them. A stamp issued today that for some reason is withdrawn soon after issue is as likely to become rare and valuable as the old ones. Like everything else, it is the supply and demand which regulates the price of postage stamps.

A Collecting Animal.

London Globe.

It is an astounding thing that so many people should care to spend their money on stamps as to make such forgeries, which are continually appearing, worth while. After all, man is not badly defined as a collecting animal; and stamps are as harmless as anything else.

Clippings From The Foreign Press

Because of the depreciation of silver in Siam 14 atts are now equal to 25 centimes, which has brought about a readjustment of the postal tariff. According to the Bang Kok Times the present values, 10, 12 and 24 atts will be suppressed and new stamps issued of 6, 14, 28 atts. Postal cards of 6 and 12 atts will replace those of 4 and 8 atts. —L'Annonce Timbr.

The government of Fiji announces that it still has the following stock of V. R. stamps on hand:

1c	2,187
2d	31,000
2½d	14,012
4d	14,014
5d	10,857
6d	16,238
1sh	29,225
5sh	312

—Szek Briefm Verk

Santo Domingo, Santo Domingo Postal has an interesting article on Dominican errors from which I quote as follows:

"In the 1885 issue were two errors 'the 2c in place of carmine is dark brown, and the 10c in place of orange is chocolate; these errors seem to be very rare and we have them only in possession of Sr. Luis Molina.

(Is it not possible that these are only color changeliugs? It seems odd that they should never have been heard from before this).

"In the 1895 issue we know of none. "In the Columbian issue (1899) there are no errors but some rarities, viz.: "of the 2c red I have some sheets "which were crossed by a line of perforations about the middle of the "stamp; the other is in the 10c and is "this—that in some sheets the middle

"stamp in a strip of three is inverted "(tete-beche.) In the map issue (1901) there are the following. The 2c we have seen with center inverted, that is "with the map reversed; the 5c with "inscription 'Mar Caribe' to the north "of the island and 'Atlantico' to the "south of the map. The 20c we have "seen in the rose instead of the choco- "late; the 50c we have seen with the "four numerals correct, but the value "expressed in words reads 'Cinco Cen- "tavos' instead of 'cincuenta centavos'. "In the commemorative issue, 1902, "there are really two sets, not one, "one being imperforate; there are "moreover inverted centers of the 1.2 "and 5c."

"The catalogues it is but fair to say, do not take much stock in some of these errors.

The Spanish paper, El Filatelico Espanol has almost entirely joined the ranks of the fiscalists. In No. 36 it continues its admirable documentary study of the Impuesto de Guerra stamp of Spain. If only all fiscal issues could be treated in this exhaustive fashion! There remains much to be done in this regard. Four pages of of the Spanish revenue catalogue accompany each number of this paper.

A long story and interesting clipping is reprinted from El Paraguay, a paper published at Asuncion, in which it is announced that the Paraguayan postal officials would shortly surcharge the 60 and 30 centavos to serve as 1 and 5 centavos respectively. The paper takes the government to task for its surcharge mania and very sensibly proposes the issue of a new set, from 1 centavo to 10 pesos to be properly engraved and printed in quantities sufficient to last at least 4 or 5 years. It is significant that the paper lays special stress on the attitude of us stamp people towards the late Paraguayan issues and emphasizes the the necessity of gaining our lost confidence.

A History of The Post-office ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

By Verna Weston Honway

The post office is the one department with which the majority of people in the United States come in contact with the Government. Very few of the citizens of the republic, when our eighty millions is considered, have ever had the remotest connection with any of the other eight departments presided over by members of the president's cabinet.

When it comes to the postoffice department the matter is entirely different. We all know the postmaster, the delivery clerk, and with what anxiety we often wait for the appearance of the letter carrier. A change in president is not likely to affect us individually, but a change in postmaster in a small town is liable to mean much to the patrons of the office.

The development of the wonderful system by which we can drop a letter costing us two cents into a box and walk away, knowing that the letter will go safely half around the world and reach the person for whom it is intended without any further concern of ours, is the story of a growth that reaches back beyond the dawn of history.

Long before men were able to read and write, messengers went with verbal communications, but the first messages containing the germ of the modern postal system were tokens which would be recognized as coming from the sender, and would convey a certain meaning previously agreed upon. At first a special envoy would go from sender to receiver, but in the course of time the messenger began to appoint someone for the latter part of the journey.

This brings us to the beginning of the postal system, the chief feature being the carrying of mails in relays from "post to post."

How this plan was gradually revolved may be inferred. A man wishing to have a letter carried beyond the limits of the first messenger would dispute the latter the task of finding a messenger to carry the letter farther. The letter might be given to yet a third, the latter depending on the receiver for his reward. Thus in time these hardy rumors came to organize themselves along certain routes.

As governments came to be established, it became necessary for rulers to communicate with their deputies in various parts of their dominions, and royal couriers were chosen to make regular trips, carrying their ruler's commands and bringing back the replies. Very quickly these trusted servants came to see the opening for making an honest penny for themselves by carrying unauthorized private messages. Here we come to where the ruler, learning of this trick, appropriates the revenues to himself. Here we have the actual beginning of the post office, where the governments begin to put a finger in the pie. As early as the thirteenth century well defined routes were established in Europe.

In 1635 British patrons of the existing postal system made journal complaints of the slowness of the mail system, urging with what seems good reason, that two months was too long a time to wait for an answer from Scotland and Ireland. Soon a weekly service was established on eight mail lines reaching to all parts of the kingdom. The plan of those days was to make the postal revenues as large as possible for the use of the king and his favorites. Shameful violation of the mail was a common thing for the discovery of political secrets.

(To be continued)

Requiescat In Pace

By Herman W. Boers.

The article regarding an identification button which appeared in the January number of the WEST is very creditable except the suggestion to have Victoria's head in the center. This is something that the average collector will object to. Collectors that are American don't want to wear the Queen's head no more than an Englishman would wear the American flag or the German the Chinese dragon. What we want is a Universal Button that can be worn by anyone.

The suggestion made some time ago by L. G. Dorpat is perhaps as good a one as can be gotten up. The word "Philos' Atelic," together with a suitable design and our colors would make a good showing.

Says F. E. Halbert: H Button (call it something else if you like) would be a stamp collectors wireless telegraphy.

By a button I mean a small, neat one costing perhaps 50c. When a button is worn and philatelists know what it stands for, it will tend toward an introduction that otherwise would perhaps would never come.

You readers know, well as I do, in ordinary walks of life one meets with strangers daily, and amongst them are collectors, but unbeknown to each other, simply because there is no means of identification.

"Who would be ashamed to wear such an emblem?" asked one writer. "Are the Odd Fellows ashamed of the links, the Mason of his square and compass?" Well hardly! They are a class of people that are proud to show their colors. Have you ever noticed when two members meet, total strangers at first, how friendly they get at once, sociably ets?

Well why should we not show our

colors and fellowship to each other.

Take the colleges, schools, social clubs and societies all have their little design of identification, and here is philately with its thousands of collectors and nothing to show for our hobby.

In the closing remark Mr. Halbert says: "Just whoop it up for an emblem, decide on a committee to choose a design etc. Now what particular stress all this writing and whooping her up has on all the collectors remains to be seen. I went over the same thing for months. I kept on hammsring, but the more I hammered the deafer the collector got. I even got as far as 20 collectors together who were willing to put \$1.00 each toward the first lot of buttons and solicited through the WEST and Mekeels weekly for more names to help it along, but what were the results? None; the collectors could not see their way clear in the matter and it was dropped cold, yet strange that such a body of collectors could not be brought together, but it looks as if it was the dollar that caught them. I presume if one could be gotten up as a premium with a package of stamp hinges, perhaps it would meet with a ready sale; but as long as the interest is not displayed a button will not come so requiescat in pace.

\$11,250,000.00 For Stamps Last Year

(LIVERPOOL (ENGLAND) MERCURY)

It has been calculated that, last year, the money spent on the purchase of rare stamps amounted to 2¼ millions sterling, and the collections of some of the leaders of the art represent as substantial a fortune as many picture galleries or libraries.

Each time the true philatelist adds a stamp to his collection, he adds to the interest for himself.

Here and There in the Philatelic and Curio World. ♪ ♪ ♪

By V. W. H a n t a y.

Wolle, the stamp faker, currency raiser, forger and all around swindler, has been at it again. His operations however, have been nipped in the bud by his arrest in Boston March 12th. On the 14th he was arraigned before the United States Commissioner as a Federal prisoner, charged with having counterfeit postage stamps in his possession. He pleaded guilty and was held in \$7,500, for his appearance on March 54th. The case was postponed until that date by request of Assistant U. S. District Attorney who proposes to summon witnesses from out of town.

From Lebanon Penna. comes the following story: A laborer sold a medal of peculiar design to a jeweler of this city a few weeks since. An investigation revealed that the medal was awarded to C. F. Pitcher by Dickinson College in 1847 as a token of merit for oratory, and was stolen from Mr. Pitcher's widow about sixteen years ago. The man who sold it explained that he found it in a cigar box under a shanty recently razed on the outskirts of the city. Dr. J. C. Gleim, a brother-in-law of Mr. Pitcher, has purchased the medal.

Dr. William S. Forbes, professor of surgical anatomy at Jefferson College, who lives at 901 Pine Street, Philadelphia, is the possessor of a Washington wineglass, which, he says, is probably one of the best known pieces of Washingtonia in existence to-day.

Of this notable glass Dr. Forbes gives the following history: It was made in Holland for the Washingtons and bears the well known griffin and

rose in full bloom with stem and leaves, parts of their coat of arms. It stands 5¼ inches high and the bowl holds two ounces or four tablespoonsful.

Running up the inside stem of the glass is a twisted piece of white material supposedly clouded glass, over which is a smooth transparent glass.

The glass was taken from Holland to Yorkshire, England, and was brought to Virginia from that family seat of the Washingtons, in 1657, by Colonel John Washington, the great grandfather of General Washington, a colonel in Prince Rupert's army. The glass was used on feast days and celebrations by the Washington family, both in Yorkshire and Virginia and was a prominent feature at the christening of George Washington at the family dinner given by Mrs. Mildred Washington Gregory, the aunt and godmother of General Washington on the 5th of April, 1732. At this historic dinner it was from this wineglass that Augustin Washington, the father of George Washington, not only drank, but with it proposed long life, success and happiness for his son "George."

In later years it was used by General Washington himself at a dinner given to him in Fredericksburg, Va., when he stopped to see his mother soon after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown in October, 1781.

During the period from 1732, the year of the christening and the dinner after the fall of the English forces in America in 1781, the glass was continuously used on state occasions in West Moreland County, the birthplace of General Washington, and in Stafford county, opposite Fredericksburg, on the Rappahannock River where Mrs. Martha Washington resided.

This relic descended from Mrs. Mildred Washington Gregory to Dr. Forbes, her great-great grandson.

The only occasion on which this

glass has ever been out of the possession of Dr. Forbes, who came into possession of it in 1859, was when General Lucius H. Warren took it to the centennial celebration of the Battle of Bunker Hill in Boston, Mass., In 1875, at the time of the unveiling of the Bunker Hill Monument.

The probable final resting place of this glass will be at Mt. Vernon, where, at the present time, the only suit of clothes in existence that General Washington wore was deposited by the late John Murray Forbes, of Innes Hill, Fauquier County, Va., the eldest brother of Dr. Forbes.

Miss Sue Sutherland, a teacher in the city schools at Owensboro, Ky., is using the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Map, issued by the World's Fair at St Louis as supplemental matter before her pupils. The purchase of the Louisiana territory, which now embraces about one-third of the total area of the entire United States was one of the most interesting acts in American history, and a school child of to-day takes kindly to any instruction along this line, because so many of them contemplate visiting the exposition at St Louis next year, which is to commemorate this event.

The perfume woods and plants of the Philippine Islands will be shown at the World's Fair in a special collection.

One sees a great many articles on philately in non-philatelic journals these days. The time was when philately was recognized merely as a school boy pastime and what few articles appeared on the subject were relegated to the "children's department." A very good article appeared in "Pearson's Weekly" a short time ago, on "Little Nations that Live on the Sale of Postage Stamps." The article is very well planned and very

well written. It contains a full history of speculative issues. The paragraphs on the Leebeck issues are especially interesting and contain much sense.

From casual excavations made in northern Arizona, it is believed that region has a buried city, an American Pompeii.

Inscription Rock, which marks the site of a precious spring in the desert of western New Mexico, has engraved on its face the names and deeds of the old Spanish commanders who passed that way. The story of their wanderings and adventures is a romance.

In an article on "Condition" Meekels Stamp Collector says: "The mass of stamps are in good average condition. If we cannot obtain the golden apples of Hesperides, shall we refuse to taste the fruit that grows in more accessible gardens?"

Bandolier and Loomis declare that the Pueblos are descendants of the ancient Cliff-Dwellers whose ruined homes are found scattered over the southwest. Of the later ruins which have aroused much interest are those of Pecos in northeastern New Mexico and the Casa Grande of Arizona.

A footless race of men is said to have been discovered in New Guinea. They live in the midst of lakes, moving about in little canoes and possessing a few cabins built on wood piles. Their feet are so undeveloped as to be practically useless for walking.

Prismatic Lake in the Yellowstone park is the largest body of hot water in the world.

At the Chicago postoffice a record is kept of the different ways of spelling the name of that city on mail addresses. At last accounts 287 varieties have been tabulated. Among the least intricate of these are, Zizazo, Jagjago, Hipaho, Jajijo and Chachicho.

Button v. Emblem.

By T. K. Burrow.

I cannot but think that the method pursued by those interested in the button is radically wrong in inception; their whole aim seems to be to put the cart before the horse, in other words, a button at any price. One writer asks "Do the Masons or Odd Fellows, mentioning others also, regard his button or Emblem, so and so." I say No! Absolutely no! Not in that particular sense the article conveys, caustic or not. It is the order to which he belongs and not the emblem he is attached to and each upward move is proclaimed by an additional sign of his progress. It is the society and not the badge they love. Thus with our hobby we have just as much right to sign for the same, only I differ from others in the method advanced for getting one. If one thing is at all apparent it is that Philately is not organized the sence of an order such as those mentioned.

Each society could have its own club emblem, but the cry was for a universal one recognized by all. Now how are you going to do this? ceertainly not by getting a few names at \$1.00 apiece for the making of buttons. What will they represent when made? Nothing, "only buttons and nothing more." Can this be the way to promulgate the universe button? Surely not. First get a National one and let the universal one take care of itself or get down to where you really belong, the more limited space and get one for each society; that is easy of accomplishment.

The WEST in its recent issues made many errors. The letters were N. P. U. A. and not N. P. N. A. as printed, to wit: National Philatelic Union America. What became of the so called

subscription list at \$1.00 each for buttons? Has this done anything? No! Simply because there was nothing to back it only the button, and they are advertised in the WEST at 10c each. It was suggested that a 10c collector would not be apt to buy a 50c button; maybe not, but I venture the assertion it would be just such as this would be proud to spend 4 bits for a button, because unable to appreciate fully a 50c stamp.

There is a deplorable decadence among stamp collectors, that is, among purely philatelic lines even in the societies. See the A. P. A. year book; what effect there is being made to bring out the very best in the members themselves, and for what purpose? Simply to raise the Standard of Philatelist above being mere accumulators of stamps. Nothing of any importance has been suggested so far.

I advocate the National idea in August and later suggested the Philatelic for the center. Now let us have a meeting of those interested in the button or emblem idea to form a Union. I will be one of 10 to subscribe \$10.00 more apiece if needed to charter and meet this summer in St. Louis, enjoy the fair with its new issue of stamps and start under the fairest of auspices the national Union of American Philatelists and let the matter of buttons, emblems or anything else for that matter visit until some formation has been assured. I shall be in Europe until August and can be in St. Louis any time that month after the 15th.

The older issues have been so thoroughly studied and collected that there is now small probability of many discoveries which will set values soaring, but with the stamps of the new century there are facinating possibilities of short-lived issues and varieties which may prove to be great rarities.

Washington Notes

The designs of the St Louis stamps have been fully described before. The first order sent to the bureau of engraving and printing called for:

1 cent.....	90,000,000
2 "	225,000,000
3 "	7,500,000
5 "	9,500,000
10 "	6,500,000

They will be placed on sale on May 1, and will continue on sale during the Exposition. Of course they are good for postage for any time.

The size of this issue brings to mind the words of Senator Wolcott anent the Columbian issue, on the floor of the U. S. Senate, January 21, 1893:

"I am at a loss to understand why the Columbian stamps were ever manufactured. I find by referring to the annual report of the Postmaster General that he expects to receive a million and a half extra profit out of these stamps by selling them to stamp collectors. That is a trick which some of the little Central American states do sometimes. When they are short a few thousand dollars they get up a new stamp and sell it to stamp collectors all over the world and get money for it. It seems to me Mr. President this is too great a country to subject 60,000,000 to the inconvenience of using this big concern in order that we may unload a cruel and unusual stamp upon stamp collectors."

The press announcement of the Louisiana stamp states:

"It is not generally known that a special issue of postage stamps is a fine investment for the government. The profit comes from the fact that philatelists buy as many of the new issue as they can carry and hold them for the certain rise that is sure to come when the issue is exhausted. These stamps therefore are not used and the government having sold them at their face value profits accordingly, the only cost being the value of the paper, the "glue," the printing and the ink. Many thousands of dollars were made by the government during the run of the Pan-American stamps."

Collectors of fiscals will be interested in the following:

"Ecuador—In accordance with the decree of July 1, 1903 on and after the 8 day of August, 1903 in the department of Tegucigalpa, and on and after the first day of September 1903 in all the other departments, there shall only be used, in conformity with the law of stamped paper and revenue stamps, such stamps as are countermarked with series of circles interlacing long pointed stars, the designs to vary in color according to denomination according to the stamp. The use of stamps not countermarked shall be held as counterfeiting."

Congressman Shafroth has again introduced his resolution, "to secure the gold supply of the world for coinage purposes:" In other words, to prohibit the use of gold for jewelry and other "unnecessary" purposes.

The postmaster general again calls attention to the use of the "Philippine" stamp in the United States mails, and directs that letters bearing these stamps shall be forwarded straight to the dead letter office as unmailable.

I turned it over: it was an old stamp catalogue published at Brussels in 1850, and was included with a lot of old stamp literature I had just purchased. The cover was shabby, but the interior of the work struck me as being singularly comprehensive for its early date of issue. I marvelled and wondered. I found several leaves stuck together and opened them: there were sheets and sheets of unused stamps in mint state, mostly numeral and early head issues of Hawaii. What a find! The panes however were differently arranged to those known at the present day.

I roughly estimated their value at \$25,000.00. While musing thusly I heard a rap at my door, and a familiar voice saying, "Your hot water, sir."

Cursed illusion! I woke from my sleep a sadder but wiser man.

Original Cover Collecting

By HENRY HERBERT HUFF

ORIGINAL covers is the name given by philatelists to envelopes bearing the address, stamp or stamps used as postage, and marks of cancellation, just as when it was received.

Until recently all stamps were collected detached from the letter on which they were used as postage but the collection of original covers is rapidly becoming popular and promises soon to be "the only way".

While original covers require much space and are somewhat more expensive, the merits of this system of collecting justify every collector's following it.

In an original cover collection, we have three collections in one—stamp, postmark and curio. The envelopes bear "received" postmarks on the back, occasionally "missent" postmarks, those of the office in which they stopped during their journey and the marks of the issuing offices by the stamps. A collection of original covers, particularly foreign, affords nearly all varieties of postmarks and material for an excellent collection. Deficiency of address, etc are especially abundant on foreign letters and the manner in which it is supplied shows well the workings of our postal systems. The addresses on letters of China, Japan, Russia, etc are a source of much curiosity, as well as the odd postmarks and stamps upon them.

By collecting stamps on their original cover we have every evidence of their being genuine and, by the postmark, the years in which certain stamps were used may be readily determined.

By the date on postmarks one may determine the length of time required by a letter to make a certain distance, the postmarks refresh our memory as to the location of many cities, the addresses offer an interesting study of different

kinds of writing, etc, etc.

For a suitable receptacle for original covers, we invite suggestion. Any well made book containing blank white paper will make a serviceable one. A number of pages may be assigned each country and the covers mounted in rows, according to issue, or in such manner as the owner may choose.

Should dealers import large quantities and deal exclusively in them, the price of original covers could be made almost as low as for stamps and albums could be issued for them. However, original covers containing stamps of the earlier issues will always remain scarce since so few are to be found in that condition. But anyway, there are plenty of original covers to be had containing stamps of current issues and every philatelist should start a collection at once.

Many wonder how stamps can be cleaned. The best thing that can be used is ether, which can be purchased at any drug store. It will not dissolve the printing ink and ruin the stamps as soap and water will. It will not cause the fiber in the paper to swell as water does. Anything to improve the appearance of a stamp in bad condition is certainly worthy the stamp collector's attention, and those who are desirous of possessing a spick-and-span collection are advised to give ether a trial. Place it in a shallow dish, put the stamp in it, then cover the dish with a piece of glass. This will keep the ether from evaporating, and the stamp will, when taken out be found to be as clean and fresh as the day it was canceled.

A postmark is no guarantee, as a stamp with a good forged surcharge, if good enough to deceive a collector, would be quite as likely to deceive a postmaster, and it would be comparatively little trouble for its originator to stick it on a letter and get the letter posted. Failing that a postmark can be as easily forged as a stamp.

Notes for U S Collectors BY E R ALDRICH

Chicago, Detroit, Boston and St. Paul have issued the new two cent precancelled.

The Weekly Stamp News reports dangerous counterfeits of the Pan Am inverts. As they are made by remounting the centre, soaking reveals their fraudulent character as the "invert" floats off when thus treated.

The first precancelled issue from Marshall, Mich. were bar cancelled, a wide bar 5mm horizontally across the stamp.

The calendars of the Iver Johnson Rifle were mailed in a tube at Fitchburg, Mass. franked by a three cent stamp cancelled by a single ruled line.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903 there were issued 9829240 stamp books having a value of \$3498386.80. These books have been steadily winning favor and each year shows an increased issuance. In 1900 two and a quarter million were issued, in 1901 it had raised to four and one half million, in 1902 to 7093240 and the past year showed as above an increase of 38 per cent.

During the same period there were issued books for the Philippine service 13500 of the twelve stamps size and 1095 of the forty eight stamps size, a total of \$1072.80.

During the same period there were overprinted for the Philippines 202500 one cent envelopes and wrappers, 100500 two cent envelopes, of which 3000 were special request (with the return card of the purchaser on) and 10000 five cent envelopes.

During the period the receipts of the Shanghai Postal Agency, including sale of stamps, collection of unpaid postage and box rents were \$8168.57 and the cost of maintaining it was \$3867.94, making a goodly profit for the department.

With Japan so much in the public eye it may be interesting for the WEST readers to know that there are on an average a dispatch of not less than six mails a month for that kingdom, the service is pretty well divided between lines sailing from San Francisco and Tacoma and Seattle and on occasion dispatch is made via Vancouver. The quickest trip has been made by the Victoria of the Northern Pacific Steamship Co. which reached Yokahama in a little less than 15 days and 3 hours from Tacoma beating the record of the Shinano Maru of the Urppon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha by about nine hours. As the San Francisco lines all stop at Honolulu their time is consequently slower by a day or more.

The surcharge "On H. M. S." on the stamps of India signifies on His Majesty's service, and is practically but a glorified pen mark. It is used in all government offices and all stamps so surcharged are not cashable at government Postoffices, hence they are of no value to petty thieves. Officers buy these stamps at the same rate for ordinary stamps, but only officers of certain grades are allowed to use them and when using them they have to write their names and official designations on the lower left hand corner of the envelopes and "On H. M. S." or "Government Service" at the top of the envelope. Native states, such as Mysore, have all their official letters carried free within the states and no stamps are required.

Married Through Stamps

By C. Grandpierre
St. Louis, Mo.

My uncle, whose name I will not mention, his wife and children being still living. was, some twenty years ago, one of the leading stamp dealers in Europe. He began business in young years, believing in the future of philately, with a small capital which enabled him to buy for cash "even the greatest rarities" but which to-day would hardly be sufficient to buy a small quantity of medium rare stamps.

Soon after the French-German war he transferred his business from his Swiss native town to the at that time capital of "Philately" Paris, but for several years his beloved stamps brought him nearer to the edge of ruin than to the summit of fortune. How, through peculiar circumstances, his business begun to prosper rapidly, is a story known to few.

Amongst others my uncle, (I shall name him Mr. X) was in regular correspondence with a well known American exporter of stamps, from which he received often large sendings. Amid the stamps of one of those consignments, X was not little intrigued to find a slip of paper on which the following lines were written in a fairly good French: "I am a young girl experienced in stamp business. I would accept engagement by European dealer, catholic and unmarried. Very low salary required. Would pay my own fare, write to —."

More for curiosity's sake than with the intention to engage the girl, X answered this novel "private" advertisement and finally, he did not know how it came, engaged her.

From the time of her arrival business began to brighten up in an un-hoped for manner. Almost every stamp he offered for sale in advertisement was sold immediately. The American girl became his right arm

and proved to be a valuable acquisition.

All went well until through an apparently unpardonable fault his treasure of an assistant nearly lost her position. It happened that one day X reopened a parcel, ready to be mailed to a new customer, which had been prepared by the girl. Instead of stamps X found, to his stupefaction, that the parcel contained only waste paper. The poor American girl received more than an ordinary scolding and was not instantly dismissed only on account of her great punctuality, and probably because her employer felt for his beautiful employe already more than an ordinary liking. He had loved her from the first.

His surprise had not come to an end yet. A few weeks after this incident a communication from his American correspondent apprised him that it had just transpired that the "poor American girl" he had taken in his employ, was not poor at all, but the well known Miss —, hidden under a nom de guerre, who had disappeared soon after her education in a Canadian-French convent and who, when come to age, would have at her disposal a very large estate. The missive added that Miss —, had always been afraid to be married more for her money than for herself and that she had hoped to find, in her disguise, the man of her choice who would marry her as a "poor American girl." My uncle was confidentially advised not to miss this splendid occasion.

Of course he did not miss it, but not as his correspondent suggested. He acted as every honest man should have acted. She was called in his private office and informed that her services were no longer required. He communicated to her the contents of the letter he had just received and reproached her that she had deceived him. He owned that he had loved her from the day of her arrival, but that

her deception having shown her suspicious character and as he disliked nothing more in the world than lack of frankness, they had nothing to do but to part forever.

They parted, but not forever. Love was stronger than his principles. They married a few weeks later.

Only after his marriage my uncle learned how his business became all at once so prosperous. Three fourths of the stamps he had sold during the past months were still in the possession of his wife. She had as "poor girl" the will and the means to help him and found no better way to do it discretely, than to invent daily new names and new addresses from which orders fairly rained.

They lived happily together for years. He preceded her in the tomb. She is still living on her country seat in Switzerland. According to his and her wishes, their splendid complete collection of partly specialized Europa will, at her demise be presented to the historical museum of my native town.

"The benefit of philately as an educational force cannot be fully estimated. It is a great teacher of history, for on the stamps of nations are depicted their illustrious men, important events and forms of government, making the collection of the true philatelist reveal as much history to him as the profound student of history obtains from his books. It is a well-known fact that history is so interwoven with the study of geography that to study one means to study the other. Therefore, if, in the study of stamps, historical truths are made known, geographical facts must also be necessarily expounded. Naturally the collector will inquire, as each stamp is added to his collection, about the country from which it came, its location, population, government and the commercial and political standing among the countries of the world." M. C. Runyan, Jr., ex president Trenton Y. M. C. A. philatelic society.

ANNUAL BANQUET.

The Rhode Island Philatelic society, the oldest stamp organization in continual existence in the U. S. celebrated Lincoln's birthday by holding its 19th meeting and banquet, Friday evening, Feb. 12, in the Gelbs parlor's, Providence. There was a large attendance of professional and business men of the city, who enjoyed an excellent banquet.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Pres., Frank M. Mason; vice. pres., Edwin L. Mathewsen; sec. and treas., W. Irving Coz; librarian, Alfred Dawson. Executive committee—Webster Knight, George A Streeter and Dr. S. A. Welch. Exchange Mgr.—Walter Lassell.

Mr. Putney of Boston exhibited a fine collection of stamps which were greatly admired.

Portugal has a stamp representing the birth of St. Anthony, in 1195. A special set was issued in 1895, supposed to be scenes in the life of St. Anthony. On the back of one of these stamps will be found a sentence in Latin, which, translated means: 'O blessed tongue that has always blessed the Lord and taught others to bless him; now is it clearly seen of how much merit thou hast been before God.'

It is astonishing what one can learn in the way of history from a small assortment of foreign stamps. Take Cuba: Here is one with the head of the old King of Spain; one later has a picture of the Baby King, and one still later with the words "Cuba de Peso" printed across the face. Could the story of the Spanish-American War and the independence of Cuba be told more cleverly. France shows, too, her change from an empire to a republic.

Items of Philatelic Nature.

By Henry Herbert Huff.

I think my method of collecting original covers so good that I will mention it to the WEST readers. As there is no very serviceable album made for original covers I think it especially meritorious. I purchased a number of plain white pasteboard boxes, each of a size, sufficiently large enough to contain my largest letters, and about one inch high. To each of the largest and most important countries, I assigned one box, writing the name of the country upon it. Of the less important countries I placed the cards of three or four in a single box. In this method, I think I have devised one of the most convenient receptacles for original covers as the covers of any desired country can be very readily examined, new specimens added when wished and others removed. I also purchased a large box sufficiently large to comfortably house the smaller boxes, when not in use, are placed in this large box and the name of the country whose covers each contain being written on the ends, any desired box may be removed without molesting the others.

It is surprising to what a degree of detail philatelic study is carried on. The advanced collectors are trying to learn all there is to learn about the stamps that have been issued and are succeeding so well that some people are beginning to wonder what the philatelic writers of the future will find to talk about.

It is beginning to look as though the future will be able to start a collection at a much lower figure than we did. One thousand variety packets were, a

few years ago, selling for \$4.00; a short time ago they were reduced to \$3.00 and now an eastern dealer sells them for only \$2.00. In like manner the price of pound lots of stamps has been reduced in past years that, should it continue present rate, some one prophesies that the future collector will be buying them for a little above the cost of the paper.

The fact that the technical words of philately are making their way into the dictionary and that the government is inviting collectors to express their opinion on stamp matters goes to show that stamp collecting is winning itself in the world.

The laws are very strict relative to manufacturing money. Uncle Sam reserves the right exclusively to do that. But we have a scheme that beats the whole thing. Get a good article that the people want, write a good pulling ad, insert it in the WEST, write good follow up letters and literature and you can make money that Uncle Sam will never complain against.

Collections of [unused stamps are much handsomer than collections of the same stamps used. Collectors need not fear that they will have reprints or forgeries sold to them, for this is not done at the present time by reputable dealers, great care being taken by all to prevent anything from getting into their stocks. There are many varieties of stamps, [also,] which can not be secured in [used [condition, and it is therefore, possible to make; a larger collection, as well as a better looking one, by collecting] unused as well as used specimens. Do not, young collector, think that because a foreign stamp has not been cancelled it is not genuine.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL AND OTHERWISE

Germany's first fiscal stamp Journal, "Die Stempelmark," was born with the New Year.

As an instance of the speculative control of many surcharges, we may mention the fact that out of 250,000 surcharged stamps of Straits Settlements, 230,000 were purchased by a dealer.

An absurd suggestion has been reported by newspaper correspondents from Washington for a special stamp for the benefit of the Baltimore fire sufferers.

In many of the foremost public museums of Europe will be found more or less extensive collections of the postage stamps of the world.

Stamp collecting is said to be more popular in Germany than in any other country.

George Duck of Pittsburg owns the largest collection of precanceled in world. Mr. Duck is closely followed by F. L. Smith of New York in this contest.

Perhaps the finest collection known is in the possession of the British museum and valued at \$200,000.

There is a postal museum in Vienna. It is located in the Prater, which is considered one of the finest public

parks in Europe. The museum contains a good stamp collection.

Various German cities have issued local stamps. Bergedorf, Berlin, Brunswick, Chemnitz, Cologne, Dresden, Frieberg, Frankfort Hamburg, Hanover, Heidelberg, Leipzig, Metz, Stutgard and Wiesbaden are among the number.

During the past year nearly eleven million pounds of mail matter were sent from the United States to foreign countries.

A set of New Zealand stamps has been surcharged for use in the Island of Mangaia. The island is the most southerly of the Cook group. It has an area of thirty square miles and rises to a height of about 650 feet. The population is about 1,551, which includes ten Europeans. Passengers and cargoes of steamers have to be landed in canoes on account of the high cliff about the island. Cocanuts, coffee, oranges and banannas are the principal products. A postmaster for the island has just been appointed by the New Zealand Government. There is communication by steamer once a month, and occasionally by sailing vessels.

One of the members of the Springfield Stamp club, J. W. Provost has recently built a new home. The fact in itself is not an unusual occurrence, but most philatelists will be interested in the den. Mr. Provost has litterally papered the wall of his den with stamps. For the most part United States 2-cent reds and the 15 centimes blue of France have been used. Different designs have been made with the stamps. About 140,000 stamps were used, of that number 35,000 decorate the ceiling.

Revenue Stamps in Current Use.

By A. R. Butler.

The following list of internal revenue stamps in use at the present time was made up to aid in the arrangement of a collection from information given by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The phrase "revenue stamp" as used in the publications of the Treasury Department is very broad, covering anything which indicates a payment of a charge of compliance with a requirement imposed by the Internal Revenue Laws. There are really two classes, revenue stamps for attachment to the good as understood by the collector, and licenses of permits, which are issued in book form, and as we understand it are not "stamps" at all. The two classes have been separated in the lists. There are very possibly errors, as the information in many cases was vague, but it is hoped that careful compilation will avoid criticism.

The subheads "small" "sheet" under tobacco goods are term used by the department. Each quantity, of course has a different stamp.

CLASS I.

Art	Quantities	No of stps to sheet	Series of
Beer Hogshead	1-8,1-6,1-4,1-3,1-2,1 bbl	20	1902
Prepared			
Smoking opium	4,8,16 oz	5	1891
Playing cards manufg, stock	200		1894
Snuff			
Small 1-2,1 oz		196	1902
1-2-3, 2 oz		108	1902
2-1-2, 3 oz		100	1902
Strip 3 1-3,4,6,8 oz		20	1902
16 ounce		10	1902
Sheet 1-2,1,2,3,4,5,lbs		12	
Tobacco			

Strip 1,12,3,2,2 1-2,3 1-3,4 oz	40	1902
8, 18 oz	15	1902
Sheet 1-2,1,2,3,4, lbs	12	1902
Cigars 12,13,25,50,100	10	1901
200,250,500	5	1901
(small) 10	10	1901
20	80	1901
50	12	1901
100	10	1901
Cigarettes 10 (54c per M)	100	1901
20 "	80	1901
strip 50 "	12	1901
" 100 "	10	1901
" 10 (\$1 08 per M)	100	1901
20 "	80	1901
strip 50 "	12	1901
" 100 "	10	1901
10 (\$3 per M)	70	1902
20 "	70	1902
strip 50 "	12	1902
" 100 "	10	1902

There are two kinds of "stamps" that have positively no revenue significance, the Lock seals, series of 1875, printed in sheets of 20 stamps; and the Hydrometer seals, series of 1901, printed in sheets of 54 stamps.

The second class consists of those "stamps" which are bound in volumes, and which comprise many which are merely licenses in common nomenclature, though they represent the payment of an internal revenue tax as much as do the others. The following are the varieties of these:

CLASS II

Art. of Des.	Stps to Sheet	Sheets to Volume	Series
Tobacco (stub) 1 oz	4	80	1902
5,10,20,30,40,50, 60 lbs	5		
Snuff (stub) 10,20 lb	5	80	"
Wholesale 5,10,20,30, Liquor 40,50,60,70,80, Dealer 90,100,110, 120,130 gal	3	100	1878

Imported 5,10,20,30, Liquors 40,50,60,70, 80,90,100,110, 120 gals 3 100 Tax Paid 10,20,30,40, 50,60,70,80, 90,100,110,120, 130 gal 3 50 Rectifiers 5.10,20,30,40, 50.60,70,80, 90,100,110, 120,130 gal 4 25 Case Stamps Tax paid 1-10,1-5,1-2,1pt placed on 1 quarts cases of dis- 1-5, 1-2 gal tilled spirits in bottles. Exportation 1-10,1-5, 20 stamps to 1-2,1 pt lqt the volume 1-5.1-2 gal 1897 Oleomargarine 10,20,30, without artificial 40,50, coloration stub 60,70,80,90, 100 lbs 4 50 1902 Oleomargarine 10,20,30,40, stub 50,60,70,80, 90,100 lbs 4 50 " Adulterated 10,20,30,40, Butter stub 50,60,70,80, 90,100 lbs 4 50 " Process or 10,20,30,40,50, renovated 60,70,80,90, butter stub 100 lb 4 50 " Filled 10,20,30,40,50, cheese 60,70,80,90, stub 100 lbs 4 50 " Art. of des. Stps - Sheets [series to to one Sheet Volume stamp for the special tax, series of 1902, and one for special tax, series of 1903. Rectifiers(less than 500 bbls) Rectifiers(500 bbls or more) Wholesale liquor dealers Brewers(less than 500 bbls) Brewers(500 bbls or more) Wholesale dealers in malt liquors Retail dealers in malt liquors Manufacturers of Stills manufactured Worms manufactured Wholesale dealers in filled cheese 1 10 Manufacturers of	filled cheese Manufacturers of mixed flour 1879 Wholesale dealers in oleomargarine without arti. col. 1894 Retail dealers in oleo. without arti. col. Wholesale dealers in oleomargarine Retail dealers in oleomargarine 1892 Manufacturers of oleomargarine Wholesale dealers adulterated butter Retail dealer adulterated butter Manufacturer adulterated butter Process or renovated butter Retail liquor dealer 2 50 Export tobacco and snuff " cigars and cigarettes 1883 " fermented liquors 1883 " oleomargarine 1891 " distilled spirits 1886 " " " 1878 " " " 4 100 1899 Brewers permits 1878 Distillery Warehouse 1878 Special Warehouse 1890 Rewarehousing 1890 General bonded warehouse 1890 " " " retransfer 1890 Transfer stamp for grape brandy 4 25 1890 Fortified sweet wine 4 50 1890 Export butter 4 ? ? Export fortified wine 4 ? ? The changing of the law in regard to the taxes on tobacco, snuff and beer left remainders of the 1892 and 1901 series in the hands of the Department, and these remainders have been sur- charged (imprinted is the term used) "Series of 1902" on the following list of stamps: Tobacco Stub 1 oz,30, 50,60 lbs Series 1898 im- printed 1902 Strip 8,16 oz Series 1898 imprinted 1902 Sheet 1,2,3,4 lbs Series 1898 imprinted 1902 Strip 2,3,4,oz Series 1901 imprinted 1902 Snuff Stub 10,20 lbs " 1898 " " Strip 8,16 oz " " " Sheet 1-2,1,2,3,4,5,lbs " " " Small 1-2 oz " " " Beer Hogshead, 1-3, 1-6 barrell Series 1901, imprinted 1902
---	---

For each one of these titles there is one stamp for the special tax, series of 1902, and one for the special tax, series of 1903.

A Few Reasons Why I Collect Stamps.

By Fred W. Schroeder, Jr

Often on a winters evening with my album before me and my philatelic treasurers scattered upon the table about me, and engaged in sorting, arranging and hinging stamps in my album, I have been visited by one of my non-collecting friends and asked this question. "What do you intend to do with all these stamps and why do you collect them?" These are questions that have been asked almost every person that has ever owned a stamp collection no doubt. Some collectors give one reason and some another. When this question is asked me I answer "Because I like to, because I find it a pleasure, and because I find it restful relief after the fatigues and worries of the day's labors." The nerves and the brain, strained to their utmost tension, after the busy bustle of the days cares, demand nourishment to meet the demands made upon them. There are times when an altogether different line of thought does more to soothe the tired brain than sleep. Fortunate is the man, no matter in what walk of life he may be, business or professional, who has a collection of stamps to which he can turn and find the rest he seeks.

There are few things that are more fascinating than a neatly and carefully arranged collection of stamps, and which possess more interest for all lovers of the beautiful and curious. Philately was at one time known merely as a "fad" but the days of the "fad" are past and of late years it is known either as a hobby or a science. But that as it may. It is just what each individual makes it. Its field of opportunities for study and research are

unlimited and abundant. A clean and neatly arranged collection of stamps makes an attractive atlas of the world, and a history of the changes, both political and industrial, of nations and peoples. A collection possesses not only an educational value, but it also has a financial value.

Stamps must be studied like the stock broker or the merchant studies the market. The collector should know when, where and what to buy. He should study every stamp that passes through his hands. I have learned this much from experience and experience is a good teacher. Not long ago I was looking over my duplicates, and soaking the paper from a number of 1851-1860 3c rose, when I noticed that one of these looked rather peculiar. In the first place it was imperforated, and after I had removed the paper I discovered that the entire stamp was covered with embossing. I got out my catalogue and after careful examination I discovered that it was one of the rare 1867 on wove paper, imperforate, Scotts No. 7c and catalogued at \$50! Imagine how I felt. It is a beauty too, being only lightly cancelled. I then remembered having received it from an old postmaster, together with some other stamps when I first started to collect, about 10 years ago, and during all that time it had lain unnoticed among my duplicates.

Watch your stamps closely and you will add many a prize to your collection and if anyone asks you why you collect stamps, just tell them to start a collection and they won't need an answer.

An English paper describes the design used on some United States stamps: "5c 1890, Ulysses Simpson Grant, eighteenth President of America, a great fighter; took part in all the battles of the campaign and the capture of Mexico."

Collecting Unused Stamps. *My Favorite Country.*

By B. P. W A G N E R. By Lawrence M i m t z.

Collectors here and elsewhere should learn the value of collecting uncancelled stamps. The catalogues price these at double the cancelled and with the U. S. stamps at least you should if your means will warrant it get one stamp uncancelled of the entire issue and more emphatically so of such issues as the Pan-American Columbian and other issues. What a contrast are unused stamps to the ink besmeared cancelled ones. Always use the imported peelable hinges for mounting them in your album as this preserves the full gum. If foreign unused are wanted you can find plenty of names of foreign collectors in the exchange column of the WEST and you can have them buy them for you from dealers there add when wanted the current issue from their postmasters.

"It is very easy to tear down, but building up is slow work and the more imposing and lasting the structure the longer it is before any appreciable headway is made. A stamp collection is no exception to the rule, and he who would be the possessor of a beautiful collection should make it a rule to add something to his accumulation every day.

Hayti had a series of stamps all ready to put into circulation but like Serbia because of a political change the stamps have really been defaced with surcharging before being placed on sale. The surcharge "Poste Paye" is crudely printed in two lines across the stamp, while the date "1904" is placed above. The series consists of the following values: 1 cent green; 2 cent rose; 5 cent blue; 10 cent yellow and black, and the 20 cent blue and black.

Every collector of stamps certainly has some favorite country to which he devotes the most of his time. By this I mean that he fills up the pages of this country more quickly. Canada is my special country. No stamps as beautiful as the Jubilee Issue of 97, in my opinion, have ever been issued. The coloring in these stamps is the best. They are finely printed and on a whole makes a beautiful appearance. Of course each collector has his opinion of the country he likes best and sticks to it. More pleasure is derived in collecting stamps that you like than collecting stamps that you do not like.

Mauritius can boast of three philatelic "records." It was the first British Colony to issue adhesive postage stamps; it was the first British Colony to indulge in a surcharge, and, finally, it is a Mauritian stamp that has shattered all records in the matter of prices paid for stamps at public auction.

New issues are all right when limited to copies for collection, but very unsatisfactory when held for speculation. Small speculators are not able to hold long enough. Very few issues are made in small enough quantities for the stamp to become rare, and even then the small speculator, buying through a dealer, doesn't get them.

Nowadays every stamp collector is more or less of a specialist. Even the most "ardent" "generalist" usually has some country, issue or type he particularly fancies and to which he devotes no little time and trouble in making as complete as possible.



DEPARTMENT of INQUIRY

By L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis.

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

Another book announced by the same company is a "The Postage Stamps of the Philippines," by J. Murray Bartels Capt, F. L. Palmer, U. S. A., and F. Apthorp Foster. The prospectus promises a good thing of especial interest to engineer or query 24. The edition is to be of 350 copies at \$2.50 cloth and \$4.50 Ed de Luxe. Ready in February 1904.

167. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PHILATELIST AND A STAMP COLLECTOR?—The philatelist is a lover of stamps, whether he be a collector or not. The collector is a gatherer of stamps whether he be a lover of them or not. In most cases the same person is both, a philatelist and a collector, but he is called the one or the other, according to what predominates in him, the love of stamps or the love of collecting them (perhaps only for money's sake). The philatelist usually is a student of stamps and pursues their study in a scientific way, while a collector who is not a philatelist may hoard up stamps without any except the most necessary knowledge of stamps. They are not necessarily against each other, and it may be said that the best philatelist is the one who is also a good collector, and the best collector is the one who is also a good philatelist—The question whether or not stamp collecting is a science, is about on the same line.

The answer will depend entirely upon how the collecting is done. With study it becomes a science, as raising potatoes becomes a science by means of study; without study it can certainly not be called science. Whether a science or not, it may be called hobby, a pastime or business, and will be a different thing to different individuals according to their attitude toward that science. It does not seem very important what position one takes as long as he does not go to extremes, and does not make war upon others for differing a little from him in position.

168. WHAT IS BETTER, TO COLLECT USED OR UNUSED STAMPS ONLY, OR BOTH?—Each of the three modes of collecting has its distinct advantages. Used stamps are in many instances much cheaper than unused, and collectors of moderate means may prefer getting used stamps only for that season; but there are exceptions and very important ones, too, some stamps being much scarcer and consequently much costlier in a genuinely used (postally used) condition than otherwise. To think that every cancellation work is genuine and a proof of genuineness of a stamp is erroneous, because both are counterfeited. Unused stamps are prettier than used and collectors who care for beauty will prefer unused stamps; but these are in some cases so excessively high in price, that the completeness as a collection in used stamps is almost beyond all hope. Just think of the St. Louis postmaster's stamps, Mauritins postoffice and British Guiana and other very early issues all unused, things almost unheard of! If you can get them, these are certainly the best to collect! But who can? To collect both used and unused side by side means to make two collections.

at once. Provided a collector has time, money and energy enough in excess he may certainly make a better showing with two or three collections than with one; usually though one collection is enough and all one man can attend to. To collect indiscriminately used or unused stamps, as they may be offered to the collector, is about the easiest and quickest way to get a large collection; It is therefore the most common way and suggests itself, in fact, it takes an effort to break loose from this mode of collecting.

169. IS THERE ANY FORM, IDEAL OR LAW FOR STAMP COLLECTORS?—Certainly! The first collectors had to pick their way as best they could without any precedent or experience from others by which they might profit. It is different now, after quite a number of collectors have gained success or failed in their endeavors before us. We may learn from them, and we must, if we will avoid their mistakes and attain an equal standing with the best of them. Such names as Moens, Tappling, Tiffany suggest at once certain ways of procedure and invite us to follow the ways of these men who were highly successful. Any contemporary's success too invites us to study his methods and to follow them. Yet there is nothing like a philatelic legislator who may arbitrarily prescribe what his fellow-collectors shall practice or avoid. It is not human will that makes or prescribes laws, forms or ideals except the will of the individual for that self-same individual. It is action, experience and precedence that points out what is wholesome or detrimental, and all we can do for one another without inspiring undue ascendancy is to relate our experience or to direct attention to the experience of others. If any individual will break

loose from all precedent, follow new lines and do what others did not and nevertheless make a success of it; we must accord him the right to do so and must acknowledge that he thereby establishes new forms, ideals or laws. Whether or not we will follow these or the old ones depends upon our own will and what we aim at. Anyone who is successful in an innovation earns thereby prominence and leadership. Mere talk is vain.

170. MAY A PHILATELIC SOCIETY MAKE LAWS FOR ITS MEMBERS? Of course, it may! As no one is compelled to join any society against his will, so the majority of any existing or forming society may decide with whom they will or will not associate. For an instance, if a dozen bearded collectors decided to start a society in which every member was to wear a beard, it would be but right (though it may seem foolish) to deny any un-bearded collector admission, or to expel any member for having his beard cut off. Likewise the majority may always decree what conditions in regard to collecting are to be fulfilled by those who are associated with them, provided no promises are broken. That promises should not be broken is a moral law, without which society can never flourish. Unless a promise be broken thereby, a member must always have the right to leave any society for disagreement with the majority of its members, and there need not be any ill feeling about it either. It seems quite proper that a philatelic society should decide upon a certain plan or object, a speciality or focus, in order to accomplish something worth while, and unless there is very little hope of endurance or success, That is what experience teaches.

Counterfeits And Their Detection.

By R. R. Thiele



GENUINE

FORGERY

(Continued)

SICILY. The first issue of Sicily is a very fine example of the engraver's art; the head of the infamous King Bomba, Ferdinand II, hardly deserves to be immortalized in this fashion. Unfortunately the stamps of this issue are usually very poorly printed, so that the fineness of the engraving does not appear to the best advantage. Often the impression is so smeared that the characteristics of steel engraving almost disappear and for this reason some of the lithographed counterfeits afloat of these stamps are more dangerous to the beginner than one would suppose. I have forgeries of the entire set, not all of them of the same workmanship. I shall begin their description with the one illustrated above, the 50 gram. All that is said of one original in the set applies to all the others in so far as concerns the portrait and the inscriptions at the left, at the top and at the right, as these are from the same die for all values only the value in the lower label was added separately.

The size of the forgery before me is very nearly that of the original, except that it is a half a millimeter too high ($23\frac{1}{2}$ mm. instead of 23 mm). Similarly the inner frame around the head is a trifle too high ($17\frac{1}{4}$ mm. instead of 17mm.) Unfortunately the outside measurement cannot always be depended upon, as the plates were often poorly wiped and it is therefore not always clearly distinguished just where the design ends. The lithographed counterfeits usually show lines between the stamps, as is usually the case with lithographic transfers, but in this case they are no proof, because the originals are also separated on the plate by fine lines of color. The portrait of the King shows various divergencies, though most of them are not easily described in words. The King's nose is not round nor pointed, but has something of a square tip on the original, though only clearly printed specimens show this well. On the forgeries before me the top is nicely rounded—another case that shows how mistaken it sometimes is to try to improve on nature's handiwork. The nose on the originals has another defect. It is slightly upturned at the tip—stubnosed, it is usually called, while Tennyson poetically says it is "tip-tilted like a flower." All the forgeries before me do not show this, but have a straight nose. The original shows the ear fairly well defined, including its lower lobe, though this is slightly hidden by the King's flowing Galway

whiskers. The counterfeits treat this lobe differently. On some of them, including the one of the 50 grana before me, the lobe is fairly well marked; on other, especially one of the 1 grana, less so, and on one of the 10 grana the lobe runs down into the whiskers about half-way to the jawbone, giving this portrait a decidedly unique appearance. This freak of course is caused by poor shading of the whiskers. The mouth on the original runs in quite deeply and has quite a heavy mark at its corner, though this does not show clearly on poorly printed copies. On all my forgeries the mouth is much too small and poorly shaded; the only exception is that of the 10 grana already mentioned on which it is quite large but without the heavy shading. The chin whiskers on the original end in a very short curve, almost in a point; on all my counterfeits the end too round and bluntly. The part of the bust which touches the frame at the right is quite narrow on the original, hardly more than a millimeter in width, while on all the forgeries before me it is much too wide, nearly two millimeter in width. Now as to the inscriptions:—On all the forgeries in my collection the scripts of the letters are too thick, so that the letters appear too heavily, though in reality they are in some cases thinner than those of the genuine, e. g. the L and I in SICILIA and the S of the same word. The letters of the word POSTA are all too heavy as compared to the original. The R. of G. R. has too straight and thin a bail: on the originals it is quite thick and has an angle near its juncture with the rest of the letter. The left part of the G. is also too thin. In the figures of value the top of the 5 is rather flat, while the forgery shows it somewhat curved upwards. On all the values of the genu-

ine there is a period after the A of SICILIA, but it is so close to the letter that quite often it seems to be merely an elongation of the right-hand foot of the A. On the counterfeits this period stands out very distinctly and clearly; it is opposite the end of the horizontal frame line under the head, whereas on originals consists of exceedingly fine crosshatching so fine, in fact, that the background on all but very clear copies appears solid. In the forgeries the background is also hatched, but quite coarsely; often it appears solid here also.

Some of my counterfeits are cancelled by means of a nondescript horseshoe-shaped mark, whose significance is dark. None of them show the curious ornamental obliteration which was especially designed to leave the sacred head of King Bomba clear from defacement.

(To be continued.)

From statistics issued by the International Postal union, one may learn interesting facts about United States which stands first in the number of articles of mail matter, received by and sent to each inhabitant, in the length of its mail routes in the amount of money expended, in the deficiency and in the number of postoffices and employes. New Zealand stands first in the proportion of postoffices to the population, while the United States comes next. Germany has more public letter boxes than any other country, but our own country is a close second.

Unused stamps of the current series of Great Britain may be redeemed at the post offices in London, Dublin and Edinburgh at a discount of 5 per cent.

Inscriptions on Stamps By L. G. DORPAT

CHUNGKING has the same on its two types, to wit: "Chung-Ch'ing-Hsin-Chu": Chung-King-Letter Bureau on the right and on the left "Pro-Ch'ien-Erh-Fen": Label-Coin-Two-Candarin, which seems to mean stamp value, Two Candarins. I am not quite sure of this left side legend though, and of course the third character will differ with the values. The surcharge for the due stamps is "Ch'ien-Hsing": deficient-item or quantity, postage due. The left hand character (Hsiang) differs from that on the stamps of Chingkiang.

FOOCHOW has but one type. It is given in Scotts but not plain enough to make out with any certainty what the characters on it are. Bright and Son's catalogue has it no better. In Kohl's and Gibbon's I do not find it at all. From what I can see on Scott's it seems that the same five characters are both on the right and left hand panel, the first two (above) reading "Hsin-Tzu". Letter-Fee and the lower two "Wu-Wen": Five-Cash or whatever the value may be. The character in the middle I can not decipher.

HANKOW offers 6 types to consider. Beginning with the first, we read at the right side downward "Erh-Fen": Two-Candarins, "Yang Ch'ien": Foreign-Cents, at the left "Hankow-Shu-Hsin-Kuan": Hankow-Letter-Office. The word "Hankow" is perfect in Scotts 1a only, the square-like character standing for the syllable "Kow"; "Shu-Hsin," is a compound, both parts meaning nearly the same letter or writing. Type two has the same legend with the exception of the second character at the right which is "Chio" or "Chueh" the tenth part of a Yuan or dollar. Type three has again the same with only the value changed, the two upper characters at

the right reading here "Saw-Chio": Three Tenths (dimes) of a Yuan. The remaining three types are again so indistinct in Scotts that I dare not risk my eyes in deciphering them, and originals I have not. With the help of the foregoing it should be easy though to read their contents, if these can only be seen.

ICHANG is rather rich in Chinese characters. No. 1 has "I-Chang" on the right and "Hsin-Kuan": Letter-Office at the left. In the centre cross wise from above down and from right to left we have "Wen - Yin - Wu - Hao": Pure-Silver-Five-Hao. "Hao" is the tenth part of a Fen or Candarin, consequently 5 Hao are $\frac{1}{2}$ Fen. No. 2 has Ichang in the two upper corners, one syllable in each. On the right downward we find "Shu-Hsin-Kuan"; Letter-Office, on the left "Yin-I-Fen": Silver-One-Fen. In the centre are represented four coins. The upper one has "Tung - Pao - Tao - Kuang": Current-Money-1821 to 1850 (Tao-Kuang is the name of a period of time. The lowest coin has "Hsien-Pao-Tao-Feng": Universal-Coin-Course of Nature-Abundance the meaning of which seems to be "Coin of the period of universal abundance", "Hsien-Feng" alone being used for the period 1851 to 1861. The coin at the right has "T'ung-Pao-Tao-Chih": Current-Coin-1862 to 1874. "Chih" alone means Rule, but "T'ung-Chih" is a period of time. The coin at the left has "Kuang-Pao-Tao-Hsu": Light - Coin-Course of Nature-a Clew, meaning "Coin of the period from 1875 until the present time", "Kuang-Hsu" representing that period. The succession in reading the characters as stated above is: top, left, right, bottom. The first character on the upper coin is "T'ung:" Current; the first on the right hand coin is "T'ung": united; these are two different characters for the same sound, and have of course, different meanings.
(To be continued.)



By ROY FARRELL GREENE, A S of C C

Seldon K. Ogle of Klamath Agency, Ore., one of our A. S. of C. C. members made a trip into the country of the lava beds a few months ago, where he spent seven days sight seeing and searching for Indian relics and curios. He had a camera along and obtained a splendid lot of views, among them Captain Jack's stronghold; the Cross, a monument marking the place where Generals Canby and Thomas were massacred and where Meecham was shot and all but lost his scalp, of Black Ledge where the Modocs took refuge after vacating the stronghold, and other snap-shots of places having historical interest. In the caves of the stronghold Mr. Ogle found many of the effects of Captain Jack and his warrior gang, yet in a good state of preservation, but none of the plunder of murdered settlers and emigrants was located. These lava beds constitute a vast waste as yet unexplored, affording to the sight-seer a wonderland, to the relic hunter a splendid field of operation, to the student a place for unlimited research. Brother Ogle made some good finds, bringing back with him stone implements of warfare and the camp-fire, as well as obsidian knives and arrow points. His collection of Indian relics is probably second to none in the state of Oregon, and he will likely exhibit them at the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

Professor F. W. Crosby, the Smithsonian Institution's expert, has examined the meteor which fell at Lodi, Cal., and pronounced it not only genuine, but the largest ever found in the United States. It weighs between ten and twenty tons.

Evidence that man and the mammoth were for a considerable time contemporaries comes from various quarters. In Siberia twelve feet below the surface of a cliff which stands 136 feet above the present level of the river Obi, a skeleton of a mammoth was found, associated with numerous flint implements, indicating the presence of man, while the large bones of the animal were split in the usual way of savages for extracting the marrow. In numerous places in Europe the bones of the animal have been found both in the river gravel and in caves associated in a similar manner with flint implements, while the picture of the mammoth carved upon a piece of ivory in prehistoric times, found in a cave of La Madeleine, Perigord, France, is so lifelike that it must have been made by one who was familiar with the animal. In Wisconsin one of the mounds of the Moundbuilders so perfectly represents the elephant that it is hardly possible to doubt the familiarity of the builders with this animal.

Someone has been kind enough to send the Curio Editor a marked copy of the London Mail, giving an account of the auction sale some weeks ago of a rare book. The Mail says: "One of the most courted volumes in the world of book collecting, 'Original Poetry by Victor and Cazire;' (the pen names of Percy B. Shelley and his sister,) was yesterday sold at Sotheby's for \$3,000. It was a presentation copy from the printer to Charles Phillips. The sale-rooms were filled to their utmost limits by a crowd, which included eager book dealers, Connoisseurs, and a sprinkling of American agents prepared to bid high prices to secure the treasure for the wealthy collectors they represented. On the 'Shelley' being put up some one at once bid \$500, but the auctioneer said, 'No, no,' and a voice cried '\$1,500.' The price rose rapidly, \$50 at a time. The Americans were keen but dropped out towards the end, and two Englishmen were left in, Mr. Sabin, a dealer, and Mr. Wise. To the latter finally fell the prize. This gentleman, a private collector, now possesses the two only known copies of this valuable pamphlet, for it is nothing more. He secured his first copy in 1898. The sum paid on this occasion is a record for a 'Shelley' but has of course been far exceeded in the case of other much-sought after volumes. The greatest sum ever paid for a book is \$24,750 for a volume of psalms at the Syston Park Sale."

Up in one of the "dens" of the Chicago Athletic Association's club-house is a novel mantel ornament which would be a great acquisition to any of our curio lover's cabinets. It is a carving of heavy, reddish pine, and stands about six-inches high. It is called a "potato god" and was brought to Chicago by E. C. Mills of

Wellington, New Zealand, who gave it to Ira H. Jewell. Although styled a "potato god" by the present owner, the idol's name in New Zealand is less vulgar and commonplace. Over there he is known as a Koomera god, and his especial strong point is the blessing of potato fields. As the strange idol rests on the mantel piece in a "den" of the Athletic Association he sits on a base about three inches long and two wide, but this base has been fixed-up for the occasion. When he is on duty in his native country the god has no base at all, being strapped to the shaft of the native spades, face downward, and the black foot of the Maori agriculturist fits across just above his back. The reason that the Koomera deity is placed in this undignified position on a spade-handle when on duty is that thus he will get in his good work of blessing the potato crop more effectively, supposedly giving his blessing to each spadeful of earth as it is turned over. One of the Chicago papers printed a picture of the Koomera god not long ago, and it is a hideous enough looking idol to "raise Cain" with, let alone raise potatoes. Nevertheless when the Chicago men tire of it if they'll drop a line to the Curio Editor he'll find a place for it in his curio cabinet.

Miss Ellen Hawes, of Orange, Mass., is said to have the most remarkable collection of pitchers in the country. Beginning with 1809 she has succeeded in gathering 500 pitchers of various dates since then, and of nearly every imaginable pattern, as well as workmanship. No two pitchers are alike, and the collection is composed of the choicest cream pitchers of latest make to the old fashioned cider, and helmet-shaped lowestoff. There are pitchers portraying the skill and tradition of many foreign countries, as well as pitchers from all parts of the United States.

ENTRENOUS.

Between ourselves. Just a little chat between you of the WEST and we of the WEST.

Scores of readers have entered our writer's contest. Are you preparing an article? The prizes are well worth striving for. Read the conditions carefully.

One inquires as to whether he is permitted to submit more than one article in this contest. Certainly. As many as you like.

But be careful and avoid imitation. Original articles are desired, and no others. Do the best you can with your subject, but if the grammar is not correct, remember that we revise it for you.

We received over 300 subscriptions on February 23rd. For a stamp paper, that is a good many in one day isn't it? But that frequently occurs with the WEST.

The WEST was advertised in over 500 magazines during 1903. We believe in "taking our medicine" you see. Such extensive advertising necessitates a large advertising appropriation, to be sure. But by this means we have secured a subscription list vastly larger than that of any similar publication.

Someone complains of an occasional typographical error. Did you ever stop to consider the immense amount of labor attendant to printing a magazine the size of the WEST? And at the very low subscription price, something must be sacrificed somewhere to make both ends meet. No doubt at a dollar per year such difficulties could be overcome. Will you be one to rise up and say "Raise the price?"

How did you like the cover design of the February number? We have arranged with Mr. Dutton, and with other well known illustrators, for a series of these designs. These will be of pleasing variety. We are going to ask you later which one strikes your fancy.

The WEST Pays Advertisers

We received over 570 orders from our page ad last month.—M. M. Mercantile Co., Greenfield, Ill.

The WEST gives us more answers and orders than all other papers.—Davis Bros. Curio Co., Kent, Ohio.

Our first ad in the WEST has done us a lot of good and will use space in it as long as we advertise.—Lusterine Photo Co., Salem, Ore.

I have ads in six other papers and the WEST is equal to the whole bunch.—McGill, Chicago.

WEST is the first paper where our ad more than paid its cost of the first insertion. It was a go from the start.—Globe Stamp Co. Stamford, Ct.

"Follow-up Literature for Stamp Advertisers"

By Ernest F. Gardner

An essential factor in to-day's mail order advertising is a follow-up system. From the elaborate and extensive systems covering a period of one year or more in an effort to "chase down" a piano or automobile order, or the fast and furious "every-week fire" used by the correspondence schools, down to the little "second request" system of the small dealer, each has the same object in view;—to land the order.

The inauguration of the follow-up system on the present extensive plan has caused an increase of thousands of dollars worth of business in the mail order field, and has placed many an unprofitable business on a firm paying basis. The old system of making one spasmodic effort to land an order from the first inquiry, and then if this one effort fails to get the business to abandon the effort as worthless, has long since lost a place in modern methods, in all departments of the mail order business,—except the stamp business,

Not one stamp advertiser in ten knows the meaning of "follow up literature" as pertaining to his business. If a request comes for a catalogue the catalogue is sent and that is the end of the effort on the part of the average dealer. If an ad brings a cash order the goods are sent,—sometimes accompanied by advertising literature and sometimes not. In either event no further effort is made for future business.

Some dealers make a specialty of sending out approval sheets, sometimes accompanied by a personal letter, but usually without one line of advertising. One unbusinesslike method of some approval sheet dealers is to

send out a bunch of approval sheets to a promiscuous list of names,—(people who have never requested them to do so) without the enclosing postage for return. Then if the recipient fails to return the sheets at once he will receive a gentle "businesslike" roast about his careless oversight etc. I know this to be a fact because I've "got 'em" myself.

My last gentle reminder was from a rural dealer in Vermont. He had secured my name from some source and had sent me a bunch of approval sheets with a pencil written request to take what I wanted and to return the rest with the cash at once. As the letter was received on a busy day I laid it aside, thinking I would look the sheets over as soon as time permitted. I was somewhat surprised a few days later to receive a rather insulting letter requesting me to either remit the money or return the stamps at once. The letter stated that I certainly intended keeping the entire lay-out, as the sender was unable to hear anything from me;—that it would only cost a two-cent stamp to return the sheets, and that he would like me to oblige him by doing so at once."

I bundled his sheets, letter and all in an envelope and returned them with a little free lecture on courteous business methods and a prescription for the cure of childish impatience.

If this dealer had accompanied his sheets with a stamped addressed envelope and a neat courteous business letter, in all probability I would have TAKEN time to look his sheets over and returned them the same day they were received.

Of course in such a business as the mail order stamp business, where the large majority of the orders amount to only a few cents, one cannot afford an extensive follow up system, but I would suggest and advise at least this much:

With every bunch of approval sheets that go out, enclose a stamped addressed envelope and a good typewritten form of letter. In case a remittance is not received or the stamps not returnee in a reasonable length of time then send out a letter No. 2 written in a sensible businesslike way, and it will have the desired effect. I would also suggest a letter to be mailed upon receipt of a remittance, thanking the sender and solicitng his further business, and if desired, enclosing new approval sheets. If the business is of large volume a more elaborate and complete system can be devised and operated with profitable results.

But whether the business be big or little there must be a follow up system of some kind, or the dealer will be a big loser thereby.

***Prehistoric Remains
in Texas***
By **L. B. Millard**
Santa Anna, Texas.

The prehistoric race or races that early inhabited this part of Texas must have been white people who lived, and loved and died here ages before the Indian came here from the great Northwest. This conclusion is reached from the fact that the mounds of this part of the country have been buried to a great depth by the washing down upon them of hills, and even mountains. We find them on the banks of creeks and up on high ridges, all built of small limestone and sandstone rocks, blackened and burned, showing every evidence of having at one time a fire of intense heat kept burning under and around them. Other mounds seem to be nothing more than houses, now unroofed of course, admitting that they were once blessed with a covering, the walls of stone still standing, with nearly always a

door on the south or west side.

We find in these prehistoric abodes or mounds, ashes, bones, mussel shells, flint, as well as implements and ornaments made from these materials. Some of these deposits are as shallow as six inches, and not more than seven or eight feet in diameter, while others are ten feet deep with ashes and thirty feet across, showing that a fire had been kept burning there for perhaps years. These ash-heaps might indicate that the prehistoric people of this part of Texas were sun-worshippers and in this connection it might be well to add that some of the remains show signs of pagan rites of sacrifice having been performed.

These mounds are scattered all over this part of Texas. Large trees grow on some of them, showing that they antedate the American Indian's occupation of the country. All sorts of theories are held by the people living hereabouts, some believing that these ash-heaps are nothing more than places where lime was burned by some race of people now gone, while others contend that these are the sites of prehistoric smelters where metal was extracted from the ore, and yet another idea advanced is that the prehistoric people built log fires at these spots, and in these fires heated rocks during the day, that holding the heat kept the people warm at night.

Some good finds are made by a search of these mounds, but the specimens are invariably of stone, flint or bone. I have never heard of a single piece of pottery ever being found in one of the mounds. The weapons and implements are in nearly all cases heavy and crude, and those most commonly found are war-clubs, axes, arrow and spear heads, and very rudely fashioned mortars and pestles. As most of the people who live here that have taken relics from the mounds

care nothing for the specimens, and have either broken them or thrown them away, it is not now very easy to pick up many things of interest. I have a good many in my collection that would likely be of interest to archaeologists, and were it possible I would send pictures of some of them to illustrate this article.

The Archaeology of New York. A J

II.—POLISHED STONE IMPLEMENTS

By Oswald A Bauer A S of C C 325

In a previous article we considered only those implements found in New York which are chipped. The polished stone articles, while they perhaps afford more of a variety, are not nearly as plentiful as the former. The incredible care which in most cases marks the polished stone implements in their manufacture and the more restricted use to which they were put are perhaps the chief reasons for this.

Grooved axes are rare throughout the entire state. Celts seem to supply their places and are often roughened on their lateral edges to give a firmer grip to the handle. They occur in a multitude of different forms, one which is frequently found being pointed at the top, thin through the middle and rounded. Several long cylindrical celts have been found in different places, some being as much as 12 inches long. One celt was found long ago in the Chittenango Creek with the original handle still on although much the worse for wear. The handle measures $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches and tapers from the axe to the handle's end. It is probably the only example of its kind found in New York.

Gouges are mostly found in the central part of the state and are common-

est near lakes and streams. This would point to their use in the construction of canoes. The commonest variety seems to be the long form grooved from one end to the other and tapering uniformly throughout. Exceptionally fine specimens are frequent and broken ones are in abundance. These implements were unknown to the Iroquois however and had no practical relation to the modern Indian. Adzes, stone hoes and spades are very sparingly found as other articles were used in their stead and more particularly in the last case.

Stone balls were used by the Iroquois in war clubs and are often found on their camp sites. Occasionally they are grooved and when in this form were probably used as net sinkers instead of in war implements. These are abundant at Cayuga and Seneca lakes. Some of these stone balls are very large being a foot in diameter. Hammer stones and mullers are of frequent occurrence, and of the usual well known forms. Most hammer stones are pitted while the mullers have a flat polished surface. Some of these may have been used in games and closely resemble the "chungke stone" of the South.

Pestles are found everywhere and mortars are frequent although more common toward the coast. Many large rude shapes occur in pestles and mostly of different varieties. They vary in length from 9 to 24 inches and some longer. One was found near Albany having a carved head. It is 26 inches long and has a diameter of about two inches. This carved variety is rare. Potstone was used both for vessels and numerous other implements being easy to work. It is often found in quantities. The general opinion seems to be however that articles made from this came from Pennsylvania.

Another article and one that seems

to have been rather local in New York was the plummet. They are confined to good fishing places and are usually found near the lakes. They differ from the specimens found in the West and were probably used more as sinkers in this region. Sinew stones are a class of instruments having grooves which are supposed to be the result of drawing sinews across the stone. They are usually of a soft material and while widely distributed are not common. Bayonet slabs or slates are rare instruments used for ceremonial purposes. They are slender, parallel sided and triangular in section. Two specimens from Onondaga county are the finest known being highly polished and excellently preserved.

Amulets were not particularly frequent anywhere and New York is no exception to the rule although it affords good specimens. They are commonly striped slate and are variable in form. They belong chiefly to the St Lawrence basin and south of Lake Erie. In this state they are most frequent south of Lake Ontario. Boat stones of the true variety are rarely found here although perhaps New York has as many forms as any other state. They are found chiefly along Lake Champlain and the Hudson. Another peculiar implement which occurs in this state are the polished slate knives. These have a close resemblance to the slate knives of the Eskimo except that the New York variety usually has a barb. They are common also in parts of Canada but generally stick closely to the vicinity of the great lakes.

Banner stones occur in this state and vary much in form, size and material usually being of ornamental slate. They are sometimes in the shape of a pick, heart or double crescent. Their use was no doubt ceremonial. Gorgets also occur in many

varieties. One specimen taken from a grave in Dutchess county was of dark striped slate and had 41 tally marks inscribed upon it. A majority of the testimony would seem to point to the fact these were used as ornaments rather than that they possessed any practical use. The variety having notches does not seem to be particularly rare either and specimens are often found. In fact it may be said that as they were so striking a part of the personal decoration of the nature they are widely distributed and to be found almost everywhere.

In concluding, a variety of relics should not be overlooked the use of which is questionable. These are the large grooved boulders found in many parts of the state one of which weighed as much as 1970 lbs. The best theory for advanced is that the Indians used these grooves for making arrow shafts. Sitting beside or astride of a boulder he worked the shaft back and forth rapidly in the groove until completed and well rounded off. There certainly is no other apparent use for them. Another rare article sometimes found are the ornaments and plates of mica. Their use is not determined. Stone heaps are found in many parts of New York and are often mentioned in our early histories. They are not very frequent however in any one place the largest perhaps being in Schoharie Co. of the stone implements there remains now only the pipes and as these are of sufficient variety to warrant their being treated separately we will conclude this short article on polished implements. From it we may see, however, that while New York may not have the quantity some other states have it is well represented as to variety and the various forms common as a general rule to the authorized inhabitant.

TWIN CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Twin City Philatelic Society meets second Friday of each month at No. 535 Smithfield st., Pittsburgh, Pa.

President—E Doebelin, Box 737, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Vice President—Dr T L Hazzard, 56 Montgomery avenue, Allegheny, Pa.

Secretary—Geo W Rode, 255 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Treasurer—N S Coe, 2437 Webster Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sales Superintendent—J M Crom, East Pittsburgh, Pa.

Librarian—Max Arnheim, 908 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Counterfeit Detector—H E Wilson, Fitzsimmons Bldg. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Regular meeting of the Twin City Philatelic Society held Friday, February 12, 1904.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Doebelin, president pro. tem., ten members and eight visitors being present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The judges on the competition of collections of adhesive postage stamps of any one country presented a report awarding the silver medal to corresponding member John N. Luff for exhibit of Great Britain and the bronze medal to Mr. E. Doebelin for exhibit of Russia. Five collections were entered scoring respectively 98 per cent, 97 per cent, 88 per cent, 82 per cent and 65 per cent and the members and visitors examined the exhibits with much pleasure and interest.

Owing to his absence from the city on account of ill health, Mr. E. L. Porter resigned as President and Mr. E. Doebelin was elected for the balance of the term.

Owing to his absence from the city Mr. A. Platz resigned as treasurer and Mr. N. S. Coe was elected for the balance of the term.

Mr. N. A. Hemphill was elected as a member of the executive committee to fill the vacancy caused by the election of Mr. Coe as treasurer.

Mr. Geo F Duck resigned as a resident member which was accepted with regrets.

Mr B H Schewe was dropped for non-payment of dues.

Messrs Robert D Maynard and Ross D Vroman were proposed for resident membership and the applications were referred to the executive committee as required by our sales.

Messrs A G Burgoyne, Adam E Daum, N S Coe, Geo W Rode, Max Arnheim and E Doebelin were named as the committee to make arrangements for the coming convention of the American Philatelic Association.

19 lots were sold at the informal auction sale.

The financial statement showed a balance on hand of \$106.32

Adjourned

GEO. W. RODE, Secy.

The One Time Ad.

Why does not the first ad "pull" as well as the second. There may be several reasons, but here is the chief one. A man in the West, or the South, or even the East notices a "want" ad for a salesman in New York City. He would like to answer it but he considers, "That place is filled by this time by a man on the spot, there is no use in my wasting time in writing after it." He may have guessed right—that a man on the spot was first in answering but that does not prove that he got the place. Now the fellow sees the ad in next month and says "By jove, that job wasn't filled after all"—and he sits down and applies for it. There are plenty like him, and they furnish the solution to the puzzle why a one time ad does not pay as well as the second. But the same theory can be carried still further. It applies as much to full page display ads as it does to the little four liners on the Want page. Many a man sees the first appearance of a good display ad and determines to answer it—to write for a sample of the stamp advertised next month, say. In the meantime, being a busy man, it slips his memory. He sees the same firm's ad next month or the month after, and is reminded of his intention. It may be several weeks before he decides, but the ad is every month putting him in mind of what he ought to do, and he finally does it. There is nothing in one time advertising, whatever the size of the space used. It is ephemeral.

Interstate Philatelic Association.

OFFICERS FOR 1904.
 President. C H Precemeder, 206 Taylor St, Portland, Ore
 Vice Pres. H Moeller, 254 12th St, Portland, Ore
 Secy. Treas. D E Brown, New Whatcom, Wash
 Sales Supt. W W Nickerson, Klamath Agy, Ore
 Trustees: F N M Cordlesz, 403 Luzon Bldg, Tacoma, Wash; John Zuz, Everett, Wash. and H L Geary, 722 Boern Ave, Seattle, Wash.
 Official Organ. The WEST.
 Convention Seat. Portland, Ore

The seventh annual convention of the I. P. A. first called for Dec. 15 was postponed till Dec. 31 due to causes unavoidable. The above named officers were elected.

Certain changes were made in the constitution the effect of which will be

1. To admit any collector in the U S or Canada who may furnish responsible reference and apply in due form.
2. There will be no honorary members.
3. Exchange Supt. will hereafter be known as Sales and Auction Supt.
4. The officers shall all be residents of Oregon and Washington.

The Secy-Treas reported in part as follows:

Members in good standing, sixth annual convention.....	35
Resigned.....	3
Elected	2
Now on roll	34

Regardless of generous rewards new members have not been admitted in any way encouraging. We must have them and will expect many new members if the measure carries to nationalize the society.

Financial report:

Cash on hand, sixth annual conven	\$4 57
Rec'd from dues and Insur'e fund	6 60
Total receipts	11 17
C W Brown for off organ Dec-June	5 45
L T Brodstone " " July-Nov	1 03
Postage to members	3 28
Balance on hand, seventh annual convention	1 41
Total	11 17

FRANK L. APPLEGATE,
 Secy-Treas. 1903

The Sales Supt reported:

41 books rec'd for circulation \$521 32
 All retired

Sales from above90 59

Proposed for membership:

Lewis Johnson, Bx 1043, Tacoma, Wash.

Refs LeRoy Pratt, Rev P Demetrius.

No objections being made Mr. Johnson will be issued his card in due time.

Dropped for non payment of dues:

No 141. J D Taylor, Vallejo, Calif.

Mr. Brown, the newly elected Secretary, says it will be impossible for him to act, so until further arrangements are made I will continue in my present capacity. Members may remit me 25c for current dues and receive card at once.

Will be pleased to send applications to any one applying.

Yours truly,

FRANK L. APPLEGATE,
 Secy-Treas.

The news that the mikado of Japan has handed over the immensely valuable store of old gold and silver coins in the Japanese Imperial treasury to the National Bank for the purpose of strengthening its specie reserve, is a sign of the great sacrifices the ruler of Japan is prepared to make for the sake of his country. These old coins, some of them dating from several centuries back, have been collected by the present Mikado's ancestors, and stored for use in cases of emergency. A great many of them are specimens os the Kei Chow Kin, a large gold piece issued about 350 years ago, and said to approach nearer to pure gold than any coin ever issued. — London Express.

Nearly 50,000 pices of odd and rare money, representing millions of dollars are stored in vaults of a St. Louis trust company preparatory to being placed on exhibition at the World's Fair. The collection contains both metal and paper money and embraces parts of some of the most valuable coin collections in the country.

A Concise History of Colonial and Continental Notes

By A C McDONALD, A. S. of C. C. and A N A.

In the year of 1670 in the colony of Massachusetts, printed and issued the first series of paper money of promissory notes in America, namely; 5 shillings, 20 shillings and five pounds.

These were a very crude design and workmanship, as good implements to work with were a scarcity.

The bills are now extremely rare as the only one of the set known to numismatists, and which, neither love nor money could purchase.

Soon after this issue other colonies it seems fancied the idea, and before 1792 nearly two thousand distinct and known varieties had been issued, either by the people or by the order of his Royal Highness, Geo. Third. About one-fourth this vast amount have vanished from sight and no trace of them can be found.

Many qualities of paper were used in manufacturing these notes such as yellow, greenish, brown, white, manila, watermarked, tissue, occasionally blue and heavy cardboard.

A small amount of our later-day notes were engraved and printed by Benjamin Franklin. These were eagerly sought for and greatly prized by young collectors as well as the advanced.

A few notes of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and the Continental were fair examples of Franklin's handiwork.

Odd and quaint inscriptions often appear on many notes, such as:

IT'S DEATH TO COUNTERFEIT THIS BILL.

TO COUNTERFEIT IS DEATH.

T'IS DEATH TO COUNTERFEIT.

Again, what history a person can read in our Continental notes issued to tie our country through impending crisis. A newly formed government,

(such as we once were) must have a nationally recognized currency. But such government has not the ability, generally, to issue a gold or silver coinage; hence authorized paper specie was called to take its place.

But even paper money of a newly formed government is long in being recognized by foreign nations, and will not buy foreign products; an obstacle which our forefathers soon found themselves confronted with.

Hence its face value is greatly depreciated, and the enemy of the nation circulating counterfeits still further cause its depreciation.

Strange to say—though true, the Colonial people were accepting these "notes" in change and barter from outsiders, (the later generally demanding Spanish milled silver) and were after fooled so extensively were the forged notes circulated by the active British agents and Tories.

Of course there were numerous notes issued by private concerns and banks in that century, which form a handsome addition to any collection, but the notes of the colonies offer and collector an ample field and will not "burn a hole in his pocket."

Although the writer being a general collector of everything in the antique line, secured his first note by a mere accident, it was enough to inflame his desire for collecting Colonial notes and it has never flagged.

There seems to be some strange fascination in these musty and worn old bills, which cause the interest that is taken in them.

The collector oft times sits in his den and glances over his treasures which he has hoarded for years and he thinks what strange stories he could hear if

the gems could speak. But they can not express themselves so we can only surmise their long stories.

Following is the list of the Colonies, varieties of notes, dates of issue and face values:

Col.	dates of issue	face val.	known var
Conn.	1709-1791	2d.-40sh.	101
Dela.	1735-1777	3d-50sh.	60
Ga.	1749-1785	3d-\$40.09	103

About thirty of these Georgia notes were for the support of the Continental Troops.

Md.	1740-1781	3d-\$16	101
Mass.	1690-1785	2d-340 lbs	160
N. H.	1737-1780	3d-\$20	69
N. J.	1724-1786	6d-6 lbs	187
N. Y.	1709-1776	\$1 16--10 lbs	226
N. C.	1748-1785	\$1-16--\$600	157
Pa.	1723-1785	3d-\$20	290
R. I.	1715-1786	3d-420	79
S. C.	1712? 1731-1789	1sh-100 lbs	109
Vt.	1781-1783	1sh-136 lbs, 15sh 4d 9	
Va.	1755-56-57-81	1sh-\$20000.00	226

A small amount of these were for to buy army clothes for the soldiers.

Conflicting reports of issues in 1755-1769-1771, but no proof can be found.

UNITED STATES CONTINENTAL CURRENCY

Phil.Pa.	1775-1778	\$1-\$60	79
Balto.Md.	1777-77	\$2-\$30	8

The United States of North America.	1779-1779	\$1-\$80	16
-------------------------------------	-----------	----------	----

TOTAL

This is a complete list of Colonial notes which shows the crude efforts made by our forefathers and their gradual advance in engraving.

Many of these notes were redeemed by the United States when they were able to issue gold and silver coinage, but the majority have remained unredeemed to this day.

In 1781 the Continental Congress chartered the Bank of North America, but its power being doubted, the bank was chartered by Pennsylvania two years later. In 1791 there were only

three banks in all the United States; those of

Boston, Massachusetts.

New York, New York.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

We know of the existence of many notes, as they are in the possession of many numesmatists; again we know of the issuance of others by old state records, or by the different notes which are brought to light each year.

Colonial Notes can be bought for a nominal sum, from ten cents to a dollar, unless the collector wishes to delve deeply into his hobby.

This is a short history of our Colonial Notes.

The Headline is one of the most important features of advertising. In it you often give the gist of your entire story. It should always be full of meaning and pratically tell a story in itself. It is the one thing on which to rely to catch the eye, unless of course you use an illustration; and then, in conjunction with the design it acts upon the curiosity of the reader.

Chinese Money.

The monetary unit in Cuba is the silver tael, whose value in United States money is about 70 cents. In China coins are still in circulation which bear the names of Chinese emperors who lived over two thousand years ago. The first Chinese coins known were made of copper, specimens of which, dating from 2000 years B. C. are still in use. There are numerous varieties of these coins, some of so little value that a string weighing over four and a half pounds is worth less than 25 cents. Ten thousand such coins, weighing about seventy-five pounds, which certainly none could carry in his pockets will represent about \$5 of our money. The coins in Western China have the peculiarity of having only half the value of the metal they are made of.—N. Y. Tribune.

Japanese Paper Money Postmarks of New York

BY J. V. KELCHERT

BY J. W. Wheeler

72 Comstock Ave., Providence, R. I.

We all believe paper money to be the invention of our modern civilized nations yet in reality it was known to the Chinese before the Christian era. While European alchemists diligently tried to convert lead into gold, the Chinese took their minds to paper and it became money. Some scholars date the first issue of paper money in China at 119 B. C.

The Japanese were the next imitators of Chinese ingenuity and for centuries paper money was commonplace in Japan. Every great lord was allowed to issue paper money and Japan is still full of these interesting bits of feudalism.

Their paper money consisted of formidable appearing cards whose values ran from one tenth to fifty cents. The designs on them were very odd and curious. The old fat god of riches seated on a throne of rice bags seemed to be the favorite. Rice, as we all know, is the staff of life for the Chinese and Japanese and often takes the place of money in paying salaries. Nothing but rice in their estimation would be a fitting throne for their god. Treasure ships, warehouses and unloading ships depicted on the bills easily led the people to accept the paper as real money.

The "money cards" varied in size from one to three inches, to 4 and eight inches. The mikado when in need of money ordered millions of these paper moneys to be printed and his scheme was quite successful, the Japanese being delighted with these artistic bits of paper. Later, however, the national currency took the place of the old bills and they became worthless except in the provinces in which they were printed. The old metallic system was also superseded by a coinage of greater beauty and uniformity. With this new system banks on the American National Bank System sprang up.

NOTE. Corrections or additions welcomed. Cuts are half size. Continued from last month.

VI

Although the first "duplex" postmark, i. e. one with the circular date mark as well as the canceller, appeared in 1860, there were also in use in that and the two following years, two varieties without cancellers. The first of these, Fig. 18, also lacked the year. It was used in 1860 and '61. The second



Fig. 18



Fig. 19

one, Fig. 19, has the year included, and was used in 1862. In 1863 the canceller was put into use again, Fig. 20. It will be seen the date circle is on a new plan, there is an inner circle, and the year is printed in the outer circle. In the same year a variation of this existed, Fig. 21. In this the inner circle is larger in proportion, and the letters are nearer to-



Fig. 20



Fig. 21



Fig. 22

gether. These two postmarks were used during 1863 and 1864. The cancellers shown in Figs. 20 and 21, were not the only ones used with the date circles. The fact that two or three daubers were used with one circle was explained last month. Figs. 22 and 23 show two others, but several pages of cuts would not



Fig. 23

illustrate all the numerous varieties, for as was said before, the postmasters probably made up a new one as soon as the old one had worn out.

"Little Grains of Sand."

By Virginia Baker

Through the medium of Dr. Watts, most of us, in early childhood became familiar with the fact that "little grains of sand" makes the "pleasant land." But how many of us realize the beauties which these same little grains of sand present for our inspection, or have any adequate idea of the various uses to which they are put by mankind?

Sand collecting will, probably, never become a fashionable "fad" like collecting souvenir postal cards, stamps, or photographs. Nevertheless to one, "who, in the love of nature, holds communion with her visible forms," even the tiniest grain of sand speaks "a various language" which if attentively listened to, can not fail to interest and instruct the hearer.

Sands are found in all parts of the world and exhibit as great a variety of distinguishing features as do rocks and minerals. Some sands are fine as pulverized sugar, others approach the coarseness of gravel. They are as many tinted as the flowers. I have a long glass tube filled with specimens of sands thrown up at Charleston, S.C., during the earthquake which occurred in that city several years ago. Among the different hues which these specimens display are white, grey, yellow, green, pink, terra cotta, brown, purple, mauve and black. Few sandhills or beaches yield sand exactly like that of any other sand hill or beach.

The sand collector's outfit may be a very simple one. Plenty of cheap envelopes, an old spoon, several dozen small bottles, and a good sized blank book are all that he actually stands in need of. Some of the envelopes may be distributed to tourist friends who will rarely object to fill-

ing them, since they occupy so little space in grips and trunks. The glass bottles may be obtained of druggists for a small sum, ten or fifteen cents per dozen, according to size. Each bottle, as filled, should be numbered, and care should be taken when arranging the cabinet to place specimens of contrasting colors side by side. By the exercise of a little good taste, beautiful color combinations may be produced.

It is a good plan to devote a few pages of the blank book to a brief description of sand. The amateur collection may easily prepare this by consulting geological works or encyclopedias. Write, also, in the book a number corresponding to that of each specimen bottled, and opposite this number jot down as many interesting facts as possible regarding that particular specimen, the locality whence it came, etc. Facts, scientific, geographical, and historical may all be noted and, oftentimes, an apt quotation, will be found to brighten the page. The collector will find his little volume a veritable "scrap-book" of information, extremely useful for "ready reference" upon various occasions.

One of Longfellow's short but beautiful poems was suggested by an hour glass containing sand from the Arabian desert.

"A handful of red sand, from the hot
clime

Of Arab deserts brought,
Within this glass becomes the spy of
Time,

The minister of thought."

What the poet wrote of the sands of Arabia is essentially true of the "little grains" gathered from any quarter of the globe. Each one is a teacher, not less eloquent because of its voicelessness, and all combine to make clear to us one of the many chapters of Nature's great encyclopedia, the universe. If we do not read the lesson aright, it is because the eyes of our soul are closed to what is best and most beautiful on earth.

Carte Mobile Trip Around the World B Y M K E L L E R

England, continued.

THIRD card shows Penrith Castle, a famous ruin well known in history. High walls are seen still standing erect and firm while others are tumbled and badly fallen. Fourth, shows Beacon Pike, a large square stone structure, being used for a fireplace and having large windows above on each side screened with iron bars through which the light could be seen. The illumination serving as signals in time of war. These pikes are also called "fine signals". Another Penrith card shows a market place. A market clock built in a high tower solely by itself is seen in the market square from which run very wide and busy streets. Next card shows Eamont Bridge a two arch bridge crossing the river Eamont. The scenery as depicted on this card is truly artistic and serve for a fine painting in oil or water colors. Next we come to another romantic watering place called Ullswater Lake and the cards show the place where it flows into Eamont river as seen from Pooley Bridge. Its glints of water appearing and disappearing amid the moss covered rocks and shrubberies. Again the Ullswater is seen in full view almost entirely surrounded by mountains and hills this time viewed from Gowbarrow Park and my last and most beautiful glimpse of the lake is Stybarrow crag. A small portion of the lake is seen from out the trees, being entirely surrounded by rocks. The scene is a nature's mirror, framed most beautifully. I will briefly visit the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea near Scotland. The central part is mountainous, one point said to be 2034 feet high. One romantic scene is depicted on one card showing Sulby River, I. O. M., flowing through hill and dale. Ramsey, a sea-port and fine watering place is seen on

another card showing a long pier, fine sea shore. Next we arrive at Peel, a chief fishing town in I. O. M. One card shows Peel Castle and Harbour. The castle is seen dimly in the background. A scene of the ruined cathedral is seen of the same town on another card and last but not least we see a fine view of Peel Town from the pier showing the greater part of it lying along the shore. In the distance Peel Castle can be seen, celebrated not only for its antiquity and history, but also, in more modern times as the place where Hall Caine, the author, wrote "The Manxman", "The Deemster", "The Christian", etc. Hall Caine, in fact has served to bring the Isle of Man to general notice, probably more people know of the island through his novels than ever heard of it before. Having just now received two more cards from I. O. M. I will close my trip thro' this Isle ending my visit at Dhoon Fall and Kirkbraddan. Dhoon Fall is depicted most beautifully and judging from my card I daresay that it is a very high and powerful fall, very picturesque, the description the same as that of Bridal Veil Falls, Oregon or Oira Force also in Isle of Man. Kirkbraddan is an old town, my card shows an old delapidated stone church built of rough stone very primitive in style and built on a cemetery, being surrounded by tombstones.

Next we are in Ireland, Coleraine will be one place of visit. It is situated on the Baun, noted for its linen manufactures. One card depicts an Irish spinning wheel and an old fashioned Irish lady spinning away busily. This shows Coleraine linen manufactory in the early days though very primitive and slow in comparison with its progressive linen manufacturies of today. Another shows Warrenpoint Promenade. Still another shows Westgate looking east, yet another mailed from Coleraine depicts Kyles of Bute. One card depicts one of the three Killarny lakes in Kerry, this one

is beautifully situated in the midst of wild picturesque mountains. This lake is seen almost entirely surrounded by rocks, resembling Muskoka Lakes in the highlands of Ontario. These rocks appear like ribbons intertwining in and out, some seen around dimming heights and rock bound islets. There are many lakes in Ireland but the Killarney lakes stand alone in its particular individuality and there is no other spot to be compared to it in loveliness. The old axiom "See Rome and die" does not apply to Killarney, but I would advise everybody to see Killarney before you die in order to prolong your life even if you chance to see it on a post card only. The three lakes being closely adjoined to each other are said to be an evershifting panorama of delightful scenes in lake and stream, rocks, wood and sky. The beauties of Killarney have been quoted and sung and the good old song

"By Killarney's lakes and fells,
Emerald isles and winding bays,
Mountain paths and woodland dells,
Mem'ry ever fondly strays"

etc depicts this pleasure of paradise beautifully and Balfe the author sung its praises to perfection. Next we find ourselves in Dublin, the capital of Ireland on the Irish sea, on the Liffey. Dublin castle is before me, the residence of the viceroy. It is an ancient fortification of the 13th being restored for the viceroy. It is a beautiful structure massively built. Having just received a few more wish cards from Coleraine I will close my Ireland trip and turn a page for another country. This last Irish card shows a beautiful Irish girl (perhaps as pretty as the one who mailed it) sitting before an Irish spinning wheel outside in the dooryard of a good old substantial Irish dwelling house in the Gap of Dunloe, Killarney or Dunloe Cave. This is famous for its grand and rugged beauty being a pass of about four miles in length in Kerry County. Not so much of the beauty of the pass is to be seen on the card but a very primitive scene of a true old Ireland homestead is romantically depicted.

(To be continued.)

Kansas Phil. Soc'y

President, W. P. Kelly, Kansas City, Mo.
Vice-Pres., F. A. Lilly, Sabetha, Ks.
Secy-Treas., F. J. Ford, 314 N Wabash Ave.,
Wichita, Kans.
Sales Supt., F. N. De LaMeter, Wichita, Kansas.
Auction Mgr., F. R. Hayworth, Wichita, Kans.
Librarian, E. G. Stephens, Kansas City, Kansas.
Counterfeit Det., Rev. R. Stollenwerk, Lincolnville, Kansas.
Attorney, H. W. Broadbent, Kansas City, Kansas.
Trustees, T. C. Stephens, O. H. Phinney, F. J. Bescher, Kansas City, Kansas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

FELLOW MEMBERS K. P. S.:

Since last report we have gained two new members and several applications have been called for.

NEW MEMBERS

B T Churchward, age 49, bookkeeper, Wichita, Kan. and H A Whipple, age 30, attorney at law, Omaha, Neb.

Let every member who knows of any one who may by a little encouragement become a philatelist drop me a card for application blanks.

Yours truly,

F. J. FORD, Secy, K. P. S.

Texas Philatelic Association

ORGANIZED NOVEMBER 13, 1896

Membership Fee \$ 50
Annual Dues 60

For application blanks and information concerning membership and correspondence in general, address Secretary-Treasurer.

OFFICERS

President—S V Pfeuffer, New Braunfels; First Vice President—Otto Staerker, Cuero; Second Vice President—Emil Gerlich, Schertz; Secretary-Treasurer—Edward W Heusinger, 133-135 West Commerce St. San Antonio; Librarian—G C Cuenod, P O Box 273, Galveston; Exchange Superintendent—Charles Roemer, 200 Adams St, San Antonio; Board of Trustees—S V Pfeuffer, chairman ex-officio; Associate Trustees—H A Herzog, and H G Askew, Care of R R Com. Austin

Donations to the Library and correspondence relating thereto address the Librarian.

All correspondence relating to the Exchange Department, address the Exchange Superintendent.

SALES SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Since my last report from Nov. 14, I have received

21 filled books value \$706 37
Previously reported in circ 14 val 321 10
\$1027 47

Less 23 books returned to owners
(from which had been sold \$240 46) 634 22
Books remaining in circ 12 value \$393 26

Respectfully,

CHARLES ROEMER, Supt.

MINERALOGY

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept.—Forest Gaines Ed.]

CINCINNATI SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY.

While sojourning recently in Cincinnati we had the pleasure of examining the collection of the Society of Natural History. The collection is pretty complete in all branches but, of course, our attention was mainly directed to the geological and archaeological departments. Each department is under the direction of a gentleman versed in that branch. The geological section occupies two floors of the building and is very complete. Practically all of the more common minerals may be found there, and a great number of very rare species. We particularly noted a gigantic block of nice schist from Ft. Wrangell, Alaska, containing a great number of the famous garnets peculiar to that region. Also a slab, several feet in length, of the famous N. Carolina flexible sandstone. It was supported at one end and plainly showed its peculiar property by being displaced downward several inches in its centre.

Several selections of minerals are not yet in display but are waiting to be properly classified and labeled. These latter are very recent additions.

The archaeological collection, while not large, includes a number of Mound Builder's bones and implements from various Ohio earthworks. The largest collection of these comes from an Indian burial ground at Madisonville, Ohio, near Cincinnati.

The palaeontological collection includes a great number of Silurian and Devonian flora and fauna. Also several large casts of the prehistoric mon-

sters of a later period of the world's history.

The society is very comfortably housed in a large five-story structure on South Broadway, a few squares from the river. It has been in existence for several decades and now has a flourishing membership, which meets once a month for general discussion. Lectures are also given at irregular periods.

CINCINNATI ZOO.

The Zoological Gardens are very extensively known all over the country, and, in fact, their collection is very complete. The gardens occupy several acres at the head of Vine street and are reached by several car lines. They are specially built houses for the various fauna. Thus the reptiles occupy a single house; so with the carnivora, monkeys, birds, etc. The buffalo, deer, wolves, foxes, eagles, bears and others are kept outside all season in specially built enclosures. A large hippopotamus last year was a recent addition to the Zoo. Taken altogether the Gardens are quite a sight to strangers and a credit to the city.

Robinson's circus, in winter quarters near the city, has an extensive zoo of its own which is well worth seeing. A little excitement was recently caused by the escape of a wild boar from its cage. It is still at large at present writing and several scouting parties have been unable to locate it, although a liberal reward has been offered.

He who expects to reap a thousand dollars' worth of profit for fifteen cents' worth of advertising is like Simple Simon, who went fishing for to catch a whale, when all the water that he had was in his mother's pail.—Mahin's Magazine.

Eighth Writers Contest There Are No Blanks

These contests prove so popular that, to carry out our well-known policy of endeavoring to meet our subscribers desires, we must, perforce, continue them. In submitting an article for this contest, it should be remembered that originality is the first requisite. Your ideas on a subject probably differ from others; it is your ideas that are desired. Literary training is a secondary consideration. The highest awards have been taken in previous competitions by those who had never before written for publication. Forego hesitation.

AWARDS

- 1 Stamps, the winners selection, to catalogue value of \$25.00
- 2 Subscription to the WEST for life \$10.00
- 3 Stamps, the winner's selection, to catalogue value of \$10.00
- 4 Stamps, choice lot, our selection, catalogue value \$5.00
- 5 Stamps, desirable, our selection, catalogue value \$2.00

The above awards will be made in the order indicated. Entrance and the selection of the winners governed by the following.

RULES

- 1 Only subscribers are eligible.
- 2 Name and address of the author must appear at the top of the first page of the article.
- 3 Contestants are requested to use paper the ordinary letter head size (about 8x11).
- 4 Each article should contain not less than 400 nor more than 900 words.
- 5 The article submitted some one of the following subjects are suggested: "Why I Collect Stamps"; "Philately a Necessity"; "Speculation Champion-

ed"; "My Favorite Country"; "Necessary Reforms"; "Personal Reminiscences"; "Why I collect coins, curios, relics, photographs, souvenir cards."

6 Each article submitted becomes the property of the WEST.

7 The editorial staff of the WEST sit as judges.

8 All articles must be addressed to Contest Editor, The WEST, Superior, Neb., and must be mailed on or before April 29, 1904.

The new issue of British florins bears on the obverse a figure of Britannia for which Miss Susan Hicks-Beach, daughter of the recent Chancellor of the Exchequer, posed. The Dutchess of Portsmouth has been the Britannia on all British copper coins since Charles II, Mrs. Martha Washington used to beam from the United States Treasury notes, sometimes alone in her maternal glory, and at others in company with President George Washington. A century ago the Rothschilds similarly adorned their notes with the benevolent face of Baroness de Rothschild, and in 1897 the State Bank of Budapest engraved the radiant countenance of Mme. Luise Blaha, the prima ponna, on its ten thousand golden notes.—N. Y. Tribune.

ILLUSTRATIONS

If you can afford and illustration, by all means use one. A cut, no matter how small, increases the attractiveness and consequently the effectiveness of an advertisement; It will stand out far more prominently than any type can make it; you can often make your argument or the principal features of your goods so evident that very little if any written demonstration is required. Pictures always create prestige and inspire more or less confidence. They show the advertiser to be a man of push and energy, and both characteristics produce respect.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Welgel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1802 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST. Department of Mineralogy — Forrest Gaines Glendive, Mont.

Department of Conchology (Marine, Atlantic Division)—J. Lewis Wheeler, 30 Lenox Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Conchology (Marine Pacific Division)—Chas. Russell Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Conchology (Terrestrial Division)—Charles Russell Orcutt, 365 12th St., San Diego, Cal.

Department of War Relics—A. H. Bailey, Superintendent, Marietta, Ga.

Department of Entomology—Prof. C. Abbott Davis, 131 Elmwood Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Numismatics—E. L. Bangs, 1401 Clarkson St., Baltimore, Md.

Department of Botany—C. R. Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Archaeology—Arthur B. Coover, Superintendent, Roxabell, O.

Department of Birds and Mammals—
Department of Geology—F. A. Brown, East Peru, Iowa.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents; annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month. The secretary will furnish application blanks.

All honest collectors, whatever be their chosen branch of collecting, except stamps, are invited to join. We do not solicit stamp collectors as members as there are so many good philatelic societies now in existence, but collectors of stamps who collect along other lines also are invited to become members.

Free Identification Bureau for naming and classifying shells, minerals, fossils, coins, etc., for members only, in charge of a competent superintendent, will examine and name doubtful specimens submitted to them by members. A list of superintendents is given above, with whom members can communicate direct.

Many other benefits accrue to collectors through membership. Address the Secretary for an application blank and fuller details or write to the President or any of the following members of the Recruit Bureau for blanks and information: Howard E. Bishop, Sayre, Penn.; F. G. Hillman, New Bedford, Mass.; Basil G. Hamilton, Moose Jaw Association, Ontario, Canada; A. W. Conner, 640 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.; Oswald A. Bauer, Piermont, N. Y.; W. G. McLain, Edison, Ohio; W. C. Alken, Angwin, Cal.; Archibald Crozier, 810 W. 5th St., Wilmington, Del.

NEW MEMBERS.

529 R M Lane 25 Grove St, Gt Barrington, Mass.

530 H D Gates, Poultney, Vt.

531 Edw. C. Farnsworth, 29 Falmouth St. Portland, Me.

532 C W Baker, Graniteville, S. C.

533 S P Odell, Fremont, Mich.

534 D M Merrill, 576 Bradby St. St. Paul, Minn.

NEW APPLICATIONS.

535 H. Wolf, Durkee, Ore.

536 Leroy Frazier, Marion, Kan.

537 Willis R Longenecker, Brunnersville, Pa.

538 C M Baker Graniteville, S C box 15

539 D P Wilkennar Des Moines Ia. 1135 20 st.

550 W I Heron L Box 12 Pender, Nebr.

541 M Valway, Cleveland O. 36 Miles Park St.

542 E Haley box 192 Buena Vista, Col.

545 W D Morrill, 21 Arlington, St. Lynn, Mass,



NEBRASKA
PHILATELIC
SOCIETY.222

Nebraska's
Pride.

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy-Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc. Manager.
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245 S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262.
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg;
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

New Members—A Thorson Mead, Box 177; W Heron Pender Box 12; J R Dick, Firth R I; H T Davis, Rushville, Neb. Applications—H Jennings Rushville, Box 183.

REPORT OF SALES SUPT.

In circ. Jan. 31	32 books val	\$ 1217.33
Rec'd in Feb. 46	" "	486.11

	78	" "	1703.44
Retired in Feb 30	" "		224.60

In circ. Mch. 148	" "	1469.84
-------------------	-----	---------

Of retired books \$63.14 were sold.

H. Wendt, Dunlap, Ia.

Largest Stamp Society in America
STAMP COLLECTOR'S
Protective Assoc'n
OF AMERICA

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandlee, Roanoke Va.
 Vice-President—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Ill.
 Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr
 Sales Supt. and Auc. Mgr.—H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.

Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn
 Trustees—Wilkinson, Estes, Hopson, Omaha
 Official Organ—The WEST.

Any stamp collector of good recommendation may become a member by applying to secretary. Benefits: Mutual co-operation for the protection of honest collectors; for the furtherance of philately in general; annihilation of fraud and schemers by exposing them; collecting, investigating and assisting members in any way. Become a member and help us. With every complaint send 4c for purpose of investigation or adjusting your claim if possible to do so. A great many will pay rather than be published

Major J M Partello, Ft Reno, Okla.

J A McConnell, Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Box 249

E J Allee, Milwaukee, Wis, 1730 Moinecke ave.

R Wordon Sandusky Ohio

H I Howlett N Y City 1411 Centre St,
 C Cotrell Bradford Pa 35 High st.

J Provost Springfield Mass 463 Limar ave.

J Pruty Philadelphia, 620 Race st.

N Voglesang Grand Rapids Mich, 157
 Livingston St.

A E Bartlett, Brentwood N H

C M Baker, Granateville, S C

O Zerff Jr. Montreal Canada, 1777 City
 Hall

H Needham, Des Moines, Ia 1135 20 st.

A Hyde, Sherman Texas 1030 East
 Lamar St.

D Duggan, Toronto Canada 146 Duke
 St.

H Crosby, Great Falls, Mont.

N Wheeler, Latham Ill

J Street, New Brunswick N J, Box 82

J Robertson, St., Thomas Ont, Canada
 Box 83.

F Dodge, New Brunswick N J

Dr. S Lee, Carson City, Nevada

Pres. Chandlee publish reports that
 complaints of Morey of Boston on C

Wilson; 129 Bigger St. Hutchinson
 Kans, account due. Is same party,
 that Green of Chicago reported last
 fall, also reports G D Vail, Bushnell,
 Ill box 424. Mekeels Weekly collector
 reports Standard Stamp Co by H Flach-
 skamm convicted as fraud by U. S.
 court in Ill. Sentenced to four years
 in the penitentiary.

Postmaster reports to Worden of
 Ohio that Lyceum Stamp Co of Lex-
 ington, Ky, run by fellow named Leam-
 ing.

We have not heard from Pickard or
 Slusser. On one lady of this state if
 paid or not, will get in next number, if
 not. Bartels of Boston, New England
 Stamp Co and others sent in reports
 regards Wolle looks much like the one
 WEST had last year caught at Omaha.

Always glad to hear particulars of
 any you think is fraud of both collec-
 tors and dealers.

REPORT SALES DEPARTMENT

23 books in circulation Feb. \$ 102.72

15 " Received service value 109.61

38 " circulation Apr 1 1904 212.33

Should like to hear from more mem-
 bers desiring to use the sales depart-
 ment you can buy stamps as cheap if
 not cheaper than from dealers and you
 usually have from 600 to 1000 varieties
 to select from. I have plenty of books
 now and could use 50 new names.
 Blank books 6 for 10 cents.

Respectfully, W A Kelley,
 Sales Dept.
 3222 Peery Ave, Kansas City, Mo.

Do you think because you have in-
 serted your advertisement a few times
 in a few publications that you can than
 suspend advertising and continue
 to do a largely increased bus-
 iness. No matter how big a dinner
 you eat today you will be hungry to-
 morrow. Buying advertising space is
 somewhat like buying a seat in an
 opera house—you must pay for one
 every time you wish to see the show.
 You cannot build up a successful bus-
 iness on the advertising you did yes-
 terday, but must purchase space today
 in order that you may receive any
 great benefit.

Stamp Collectors Association.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS.

President—W. H. Barnum, 661 Rose Bldg. Cleveland, Ohio
Vice President—L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.
Secretary—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Illinois
Treasurer—W. A. Zuehlke, Appleton, Wisconsin
Sales Supt—H. C. Crowell, Caxton Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.
Official Organ—The WEST, Superior, Neb.

SECRETARY'S REPORT—NEW MEMBERS.

82.—G F. White, Preston, Hollow, N Y.

83.—A C Ballard, Baraboo, Wis.

84.—Jas C Mills, Pennington Gap, Va.

86.—W G Boebinger, 904 Vine St. Cincinnati, Ohio.

87.—B L Voorhees, Blue Island, Ill.

88.—Le Roy Hetherington, Kankakee, Ill.

89.—John Sohn, Deadwood, S D.

99.—Jas Saymon, 12 W 117 St, New York City.

91.—William H Field, 749 Giddings Ave, Cleveland, Ohio.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

92.—R W Ashcroft, 329-78th St. Brooklyn, N Y, Manager, age 29. Ref. W H Barnum, Oney K Cartasphen.

93.—R F Baldwin, 191-5th St Chicago Ill, Journalist. Ref. S E Moisant, C W Abbott.

94.—S L Irvine, Sta G Washington, D C Gov't Clerk, age 28. Ref. S E Moisant, Wm v d Wettem.

95.—S Wylie, 15 Grosvenor W Sydney N S W Australia, Importer. Age 42. Ref. A W Dunning, R S Dunn.

95.—J Clifford Miller, Coal Valley, Pa, Bookkeeper, age 29. Ref. W H Barnum, S E Moisant.

97.—W. Hr Hetherington, 400 Merchant St. Kankakee, Ill. Salesman, age 18. Ref. S E Moisant, H B De Selm.

98.—L G French, 249 Quinby Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. Contractor, age 31. Ref. W H Barnum, H C Crowell.

99.—D. H. Berger, 934 Church St.,

Flint, Mich. Ref. S E Moisant, W E Martin.

100.—N W Mercar, Bellevue, Wash. Minister. Age 63. Ref. S E Moisant, H P De Selm.

101.—R Van Benschoten, Hudson, N Y Stamp Dealer, Ref. S E Moisant, W H Hollenbeck.

102.—R Van Pirsch, Berlin, Ont, Can. Clergyman, age 48. Ref. S E Moisant, H B DeSelm.

103.—H F Coleman, 725-11th St. N W Washington, D. C., Stamp Dealer, age 37. Ref. S. F. Moisant, H B DeSelm.

Change of address. A W Dunning from Newton, Mass. to care of Contts & Co., 59 Strand, London, Eng.

Respectfully submitted,
S E MOISANT, Sec.

L. H. Low's Sale *In New York City*

February 27th was, of its class, one of the very best ever held. The attendance was above the average and the competition quite as strong as one would expect at a sale in which there were so many choice lots.

There was a revival of the old interest in Masonic Medals, the prices recorded, in some instances broke the records, and the average the highest yet realized at public sale.

The Colonial Notes had among them a few which have not been on the market in many years, and they found ready buyers at what should be termed good prices, although one would wait a lifetime to secure such again.

The U. S. gold coins were actively sought and brought good prices: lot No. 561, Half Eagle, 1796 (large eagle) \$74, and was well worth the sum paid.

All in all, sales of this sort are a real stimulus to the collecting fraternity. The diversity of representation afforded an opportunity for almost every collector to secure something in which he was interested.

THE PHILATELIC FISCAL SOCIETY.

Organized for the benefit of, and in the interests of Collectors of the Fiscal Stamps of All Nations.

Meetings held regularly on the first Monday in each month at 314 West 70th Street, New York City.

Officers for 1904.

President—A. E. Lawrence, 221 South Street, New York City.

Vice-Presidents—E. A. Wood and W. W. Norton.

Secretary—Raymond Wilcox, 226 N. Y. Produce Exchange Building, N. Y. City.

Treasurer—J. H. Petersen, 70 East 121st Street, New York City.

Exchange Superintendent—F. J. Schoof, 74 Bleeker Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Auction Manager—A. Herbst, 106 East 111th Street, New York City.

Librarian—W. J. Salva, 733 Tremont Avenue, New York City.

Trustees—Dr. L. M. Homburger; T. O. Young, Chairman, New Haven, N. Y.; A. B. Kay, A. M. Trujillo, E. A. Wood, J. C. Miller.

Official Journal—The Philatelic West,
For further information and application blanks address the Secretary.

PAY YOUR DUES FOR 1904—\$1.00.

TRY THE EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT, and KEEP HERBST

(our Auction Manager) BUSY.

List of paid up members, February 1st 1904.

1 T O Young, New Haven, N Y

2 J C Miller, Coat Valley, Pa

3 E A Wood, 628 6th Street, Brooklyn, N Y

4 F A Naab, 384 Prospect Avenue, Brooklyn, N Y

5 A E Lawrence, 221 South Street, New York City.

6 Joel H DuBose, Huguenot, Ga

7 Herman Stein, 182 Water Street, New York City

8 F J Schoof, 74 Bleeker Street, Brooklyn, N Y

9 C W Schuler, Montague City, Mass

10 H P Harris, Salem Mass. 128 water St

11 A G Burgoyne, Verona, Pa

12 Raymond Wilcox, 226 N Y Produce Exchange Bldg. New York City

13 O T Hartmann, 1410 South 12th St. Denver, Colo.

14 H N Terrett, Woodside, L I New York

15 W J Salva, 733 Tremont Ave, New York City

16 Dr. L M Homburger, 314 West 70th St. New York City

17 W W Norton, Lime Rock, Conn.

18 A D Blair, Jr., Elmira, N Y, Box 215

19 L T Brodstone, Superior, Neb. L Box 6

20 Rev. R R Thiele, Manchester, Wis

21 Rev. L Dorpat, Wayside, Wis.

22 W L Savage, 507 Prospect Ave. Buffalo, N Y

23 A Herbst, 106 East 111th St. New York City.

24 A M Trujillo, 116 Nassau Street, New York City.

26 J H Petersen, 70 East 121st St., New York City.

26 W F Greaney, 890 Guerrero St. San Francisco, Cal.

27 Frank L Applegate, Klawath Agency, Oregon

F 1 A B Kay, 2 Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, Eng.

F 2 J C Auf Der Hiede S H D Amsterdam, Holland.

RESIGNED

Chas A Nast, P. O. Box., Denver, Colo.

E W Oughtred, 28 Lincoln Ave. Montreal, Canada.

C N Eagle, 57 Broad Street, New York City.

R W Geauque, 96 Wall St. New York City.

G W Ring, 32 Vernon Ave, Brooklyn N Y

E Salmon, 4180 Park, Ave, New York City.

D P Duggan, 146 Duke St. Toronto, Canada.

DROPPED for non-payment of dues.
B H Dayton 217 State St. Albany, N Y

F Noyes, Alice, Texas.

Eli Fisher, Ventures, Cal.

A G Bishop, 208 W. 72nd St. New York City

H Wilkinson 101 Stanford Circle, Omaha, Neb

O H Williams, 230 Skillman Ave. Brooklyn, N Y

F P Lothrop. 25 W 93rd. St Everet, Mass.

F W Smith 36 Raymors St. Everet, Mass.

C C Kelley, 102 W 93rd St. N Y City

W J Stanton, 918 4th Ave., Detroit, Mich.

L Frarie, 115 Nassua St., New York City.

These members have been notified twice by mail, and twice in the Official Journal and have failed to remit.

Any wishing to be reinstated should remit at once.

I am having a new lot of application blanks printed and will send a few to each member, and wish every member would try to get at least one new member. A lot have dropped out this year and we need more members.

A large number of the members dropped for non-payment of dues are not collectors of fiscal stamps and only joined the society for "honor" of being a member. It is better to have a few members interested than a long list who do not think of it except once a year, to pay their dues.

Our treasury is in better condition than it has ever been, the Exchange Department is doing a large business and we look forward to our most prosperous year.

Address all communications to Raymond Wilcox, Secretary.

An advertisement that makes people talk will pay the advertiser—if people are made to talk about the right thing.

The largest gold coin in existence, it may be mentioned, is the Annamese "loof." It is worth about \$315, and its value is written across the face of it in Indian ink. Notwithstanding this precaution, however, they are not looked kindly upon by Europeans, for the natives have a habit of sawing the huge coin in two and scooping out the interior gold.

Leo XIII. was the first pope in over six hundred years who did not contribute to the coinage of the world.

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J.
Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg, Lithrow, New York.
Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Austin, Texas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

SEC'Y-TREASURER'S REPORT.

NEW MEMBERS.

302 A C Ballard, Baraboo, Wis.
303 Harry Roberts, Washington, D C.
304 E C Cleary, Bloomington, Ill.

APPLICATIONS.

J C Alemnalén, Calle Montenegro.
Aribo Guadalajara, Mexico Age 24.
Desision Clerk, Ref D E Loweree, W P Kelley.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

A J Kirby from 30 Ash St. Fall River, Mass., to North Tirerton R. I.

Members should send in their dues for 1904 now. All members who do not pay up on time will not have use of the official organ.

W P Kelley,
Sec.-Treas.

3222 Peery Ave. Kansas City, Mo.

An occasional dealer is found that decides that "It is no use to advertise. I have all the customers now. What can be the use in spending money in urging present customers to trade with me?" On the surface this sounds very well. A second thought of a good business man will reveal the fact that no man has all the trade or like concerns would not exist. It is a parallel example to think of two traps being set for rabbits. One of them contains bait, the other one empty. Continual and effective advertising, is the "bait" that any concern can use.



Cameras 4x5 and smaller, admitted free at St. Louis Exposition.

My First Camera And Why I Failed With It.

By F. E. Halbert
South Berwick, Maine.

In my own defence I will explain that my first camera was not of the best. It is a serious enough undertaking, having to contend with one's own ignorance of photographic manipulation without being further handicapped by a poor camera and thereby complicating troubles and multiplying them indefinitely. This first camera of mine was a kodac film loaded, press-the-button affair that was supposed to take real snap shots but to shoot an object with it was no snap. I started out with all confidence in the capabilities of my little black box as well as in my own ability as an amateur photographer. I had some very nice photographs and was finding a ready sale for them at good prices—in my mind. What a vast difference there is between anticipation and realization, particularly in photography.

The camera was ordered but before its arrival, typhoid fever placed me in the hospital. When again able to be about I was impatient to begin the practice of photography. The roll of twenty-five negatives (?) did not last very long. Deciding to develop and print my own pictures, I took the developing outfit, which included a paper lamp, into a small clothes closet that

I had selected for a dark room and then sat down on the floor and went to work. It would do you good to have seen that first film, although it did me but little good at the time. But say! those first negatives were a sight. I tried to follow all the printed directions most carefully but those negatives ran throughout the entire scale of shades from white fog to shoe-blackening. The ebony tinted ones were the result of my trying a few time exposures. Yes, they were evidently given plenty of time. The "snaps" were little better. They were a lot of over-developed, under exposed, measley, curly, spotted somethings that might have been smoked paper. I sat there and reviewed the results of my labor, wondering what was the matter with the dashed blamed things anyhow. I know now. Some of the "snaps" showed a little of the image here and there in spots. A few seemed to represent hay-stacks being carried away by a cyclone.

I still had faith in the camera, for it had cost me fifteen dollars. I carefully placed another roll of film in position and again went forth, this time choosing my subjects with the eye of an artist. A professional was instructed to develop the roll and print such as might be good. I think I got about six out of the twenty-five. The remainder were, well—the same story over again only perhaps not quite as bad as the previous roll. A few good (Concluded under Illinois college notes)



**INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
EXCHANGE.**

**With which is Amalgamated the
World-wide Photo-Exchange**

Organized for the purpose of affording its members easy facilities for exchanging photographic prints, and for mutual improvement in the art. President, G. C. Kirkland, - Denver, Colo. Vice-President, A. T. Brown, - Acton, Ont. Can Sec'y, Fayette J. Clute, - San Francisco, Cal.

Yearly dues, including exchange notice and subscription to the monthly journal, "The International Photographic Exchange," 25 cents. All who subscribe for, or renew their subscription to the WEST, by sending 50c to Secretary Fayette J. Clute, Marye Terrace, San Francisco, Cal. will be allowed an exchange notice, and full membership in the I. P. E., and receive both publications for one year. Unless the above rule is complied with and subscriptions sent to the secretary, membership cannot be obtained without payment of regular dues.

Note.—W. W. P. E. and I. P. E. members are cautioned not to write these new members with out first consulting the regular "Exchange Notices" accompanying their names in the current issue of the "PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE" as many of them desire only a certain class of prints, lantern slides or stereoptic pictures, and will not honor requests in which such notices have been ignored.

- 651—Mrs. F H Turnbull, 78 Bowler St.
Lynn, Mass.
652—Frank S. Ives, 3972 Cook Ave. St.
Louis, Mo.
653—E. W. Rieck, 14 Tweedle Bldg.,
Albany, N. Y.
654—H. F. High, R. F. D. No. 1, Wil-
son, Kansas.
655—Marsena A. Parker, Box 455, Mo-
bile, Ala.
656—Alfred V. Fingulin, 1669 Broad-
way, Cleveland, Ohio.
657—Dr. J. C. Bernard, Joliette P. Q.,
Canada.
658—James A. Van Kleek, Box 549
Fargo, N. Dak.
659—James Ritchie, 2023 Eye St., N.
W., Washington, D. C.
660—Victor J. Tanner, 27 Russell
Terrace, Wellington, New Zealand
661—George Frances 1208 Call Bldg.,
San Francisco, Cal.

- 662—F. H. Brickett, M. D. 77 State St.
Augusta, Me.
636—E. R. McDougale, 1026, 25th St.,
Parkersburg, W. Va.
664—L. V. Hallock, 64 Maryland Ave.,
S W., Washington, D C.
665—W. H. Sibley, 219 Depot St., Ben-
nington, Vt.
666—J. A. Griffiths, 12 Crawford St.,
Wellington, New Zealand.
667—Julius Kneesh, Jr., Papenstr. 126
I, Hamburg, 23, Germany.
668—A. M. Isbell, Monte Vista, Colo.
669—Charles Ludlow, 145, Stanton,
Ave., Springfield, Ohio.
670—E. R. Morris, Sea View, St. Dul-
wich Hill, Sydney, New South
Wales, Australia.
671—Charles E. Solcomb, 126 Green
St. Worchester, Mass.
672—Henry L. Dillon, R. F. D. No. 3
Darlington, Pa.
673—Thomas W. Cameron, 11 Alpine
St., Worchester, Mass.
674—S. M. Coffin, 62 Kilmarnock St.,
Mobile, Ala.
675—G. Ingmar Oleson, care Tribune,
Minneapolis, Minn.
676—Emma M. Hollander, 835 Buffum
St., Milwaukee, Wis.
677—F. W. Procter, 829 G. P. O., Sid-
ney, N. S. W., Australia.
678—Will G. Waldo, 735 Springfield
Ave, Wyoming, Cincinnati, Ohio.
679—Alfred Jackson, Albemarle St.,
Boston, Mass.
680—David Hazlewood 127 King St.
Sidney, N, S. W , Australia.
681—Charles Larson, Lake Benton,
Minn.
682—George Bowe, Jr., 408 East 83d
St., New York, N. Y.
683—Eliot Hoeft, Lefferts Ave, Rich-
mond Hill, N. Y.
684—G. W. Miller, 2914 North St., N.
Washington, D. C.
685—Fred C. Brienyer, 101 South Cen-
ter St., Springfield, O.

- 686—Will H. Fouts, Dayton Wash. *...take out the entire rear combina-*
 687—H. E. Gilham, Box 238, Dayton, Wash. *...tion, using only the front set, and the*
 Wash. *...result will astonish you. The writer*
 688—Miss Annie Young, 620 Sweet- *...saw work at one of the conventions*
 water, Ave., Alliance, Neb. *...made in this manner by one of the*
 689—A. B. Cloney, 17 Jupiter St., *...officers of the 'National Association*
 Winchendon, Mass. *...that was admired by all for its bril-*
 690—Miss Annie E. Marsh, Harrison. *...liancy, softness, detail and perfect*
 Ohio. *...rendering of illuminations from the*
 691—George P. Cavalier, 1290 Cranston *...highest lights to the lowest shadows.*
 St., Cranston, R. I. *...We have used lenses before in this*
 692—B. P. Forbes, 229 Sheriff St., *...way, but not so satisfactorily as in*
 Boston, Mass. *...this case.*
 693—Capt. E. S. Coutant, U. S. Life *...Here is another tip: This time it is*
 Saving Service, Oak Hill, Fla. *...for lighting white drapery, to keep it*
 694—H. F. Waterman, Box 454, Indian- *...from developing so far ahead of the*
 apolis, Ind. *...face that it becomes "chalky": Make*
 695—Charles S. Taylor, Middleton, *...a frame (similar in shape to the vign-*
 Conn. *...nette board used in front of the lens-*
 696—E. M. Hathaway, Sebastopol, Cal. *...to vignette off the lower part of the*
 697—Mrs. D. F. Glines, Talmage, Cal. *...figure) but have just the frame of this*
 698—Mrs. A. C. Swift, 3841 Tenth, Ave. *...board. It can be cut out of a board or*
 S., Minneapolis, Minn. *...made of wire. On this frame stretch*
 699—Bonnie L. Crawford, Largo, Cal. *...a thickness of black veiling, which*
 700—F. R. Fraprie, 170 Summer, St., *...can be secured at the dry goods store.*
 Boston, Mass. *...Now use this screen exactly as you use*

NOTES FROM THE ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF PHOTOGRAPHY.

One of the most interesting groups ever made in the skylight room was that in which one representative from each state as well as a representative of each foreign country, was included. There were thirty-two states of the Union represented and six foreign countries. New York holds the palm for the largest attendance from any one state, and Illinois comes a close second.

There are quite a number of photographic stock houses throughout the country that are selling a portrait lens working at f5 with 15 1-5 inch focus, the 8x10 selling for \$60. Quite a number of our students have bought these lenses, and here is a tip for you: If you have an 8x10 of these lenses and wish to make an 11x14 or 14x17 nega-

Here is another tip: This time it is for lighting white drapery, to keep it from developing so far ahead of the face that it becomes "chalky": Make a frame (similar in shape to the vignette board used in front of the lens to vignette off the lower part of the figure) but have just the frame of this board. It can be cut out of a board or made of wire. On this frame stretch a thickness of black veiling, which can be secured at the dry goods store. Now use this screen exactly as you use your vignette board, only raise it so the entire drapery is covered with it. The veiling does not stop out the light from the drapery, but regards it, making it register slower. Some exquisite effects can be obtained by using two or three thicknesses of veiling, each succeeding thickness being about one inch less in width, which will give the effect of gradual reduction in intensity as it goes toward the base of the picture.

The latest addition to the faculty of the new Bissell College of Photo-Engraving is Mr. Dudley K. Ladd, of New York, an expert photo-engraver with years of experience in the various departments. Among other things, Prof. Ladd is master of the three color work and will give much additional strength to the corps of instructors.

We recently received a visit from

Mr. Amando Cespedes of San Jose, Costa Rica, one of our students of 1900. Mr. Cespedes has been appointed one of three commissioners at the World's Fair at St. Louis, representing Costa Rica.

The catalogue of the Bissell College of Photo-Engraving has been received from the printers and is now ready for distribution.

Prof. Cook will give a talk and demonstration at the coming convention of the Photographers of Northern Michigan. A novel feature of the demonstration will be an arrangement of the dark-room whereby each one will develop his own negative and Mr. Cook will be in their midst, telling how to do it. It is a practical idea that has often been proposed for conventions but never put into practice.

(MY FIRST CAMERA ETC. Concluded) ones were exposures that had been made directly after a shower of rain when the atmosphere was most clear. That camera would not take a descent picture if there was any trace of haze in the air.

One day I arranged a group of school children with their teacher standing behind them in the doorway of the building, but she failed to show up on the negative—or the children either. In reply to the school ma'am's question I answered that I did not know how long they would have to wait before seeing the picture. They are waiting yet. I was not always careful about background in those days. In one of my efforts a trick bicycle rider was made to appear as if suspended from a clothes reel by the seat of his riding costume. In pressing the button I almost invariably moved the camera in such a way as to secure somewhat hazy yet effective results; so effective that it actually made one dizzy to look

at some of them. After using up the third roll of film I traded off that camera to a fellow who threw it in the ash-barrel a little later. My end of the swap turned out just as disappointing.

Mounting Small Prints.

A very rich and effective method of mounting prints, particularly those of a small size, is to be found in indenting or countersinking a plate mark somewhat larger than the print into surface of the mount itself. This may be done in the following manner: First secure three pieces of zinc or heavy block tin, two of which should be the same size as the mount to be treated and the third of the exact size and shape that the plate mark is desired to be when finished. The edges and corners of this third plate should be carefully rounded off so that no cutting edges are left and the family wringing machine clamped in position for use. Next select paper or card mount which is intended to be treated and pass it several times through the wringer between three or four sheets of blotting paper which has been thoroughly wet. After the mount is evenly damped in this way place it between the two larger sheets of metal, with the smaller piece on top of the card in the exact position on the mount where the plate mark is desired, and holding them firmly so that the small piece of metal does not slide out of its position, run them through the wringer backward and forward three or four times.

The result will be a very effective countersunk plate mark, in which the print will show to great advantage.

An Easy Way to Apply Backing.

Place the plate in a printing frame, glass side out, with a piece of pure lintless blotter between the film of plate and back of frame, when the frame is closed the backing may be put on without fear of getting on the wrong side. I. P. E. 357.

The American Historical, and Natural History Photo Society

R. H. WOODFORD, Bristol, Conn., Pres: GEORGE E. MOULTHROPE, Bristol, Conn., Sec-Treas.



An association of those interested in the Exchange of

American Historic

and Natural History

Photo Prints and

Lantern Slides.

Yearly dues, including exchange notice and subscription to this journal 50c. Foreign membership \$1.00.

Address all communications to Geo. E. Moulthrop, Sec-Treas., Bristol, Conn.

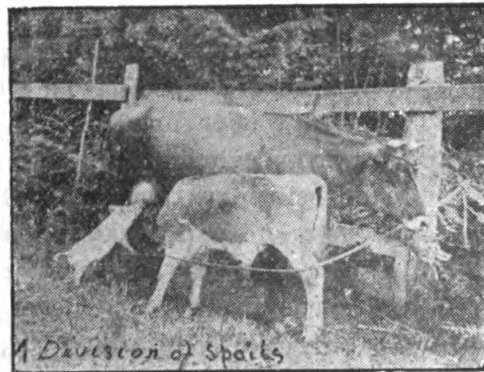
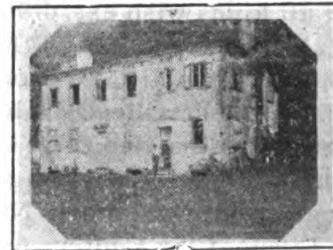
VOL. 3.

MARCH, 1904. CIRCULATION 18,000

NO 25.

Two Bonaparte mansions at Bordentown, N. J. One a mansion of Joseph Bonaparte Ex-King of Naples and Spain, and brother of General Napoleon Bonaparte. The other is known as the residence of Zen-
aide as daughter of Joseph and the French Princess.

Taken by Morris C Runyan, Jr.



Taken by L. C. Wheeler



Transparencies on fogged plates—Plates that have been fogged in any way can be utilized for the production of transparencies by first exposing them to lamp light or gaslight for one or two minutes, so that they may be uniformly fogged and then immersing them for eight or ten minutes in a solution containing copper chloride 50 grammes (or 350 grains), potassium bromide 6 grammes (or 42 grains), water 1,000 cc (or 16 ozs.) This operation and the subsequent through washing in water that is necessary, are conducted in orange light. The plates, when dried, are comparatively insensitive, and with ordinary negatives require an exposure of from twenty to 30 seconds in diffused daylight, or from two to five minutes at a distance of about 12 inches from an ordinary 12 in. from an ordinary lamp or gas flame. Any developer may be used, provided that it contains a fair proportion of bromide.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

New Members—659, M Goodrich, Omaha, 2623 Merith ave; 660, G Blakesley, Eddyville; 661, G Bennett, Elgin; 662, RC Resler, Grand Island; 664, G Koehke, Plattsmouth; 665, C Sweet, Palmyra; 666 H Letton, Fairbury; 667 G H Mair, Broken Bow; 668 H McLucas, Fairbury; 669 T Davis, Rushville; 670 J R Dick, Firth RRI; 671 G Bruckert, Bruning; 672 Wackerman, Omaha 1115 So 30th ave; 673 H Perrin, Rogers; 674 CH Gardner, Auburn; 675 J Heron, Pender bx 12; 676 A Thorson, Meade bx 177; 677 N Thorson, 818 10th st Applications—678 J Haron, Moomaw. western views of all kinds wish ex; 679 H Jennings, Valentine, bx 183; 680 F Karlson Mead; 681 F F Tomblin, Wilsonville; 682 H Phillips Glenville; 683 A Rickel Juniata; 684 E Cresina Neb City; 685 K Rex, Omaha 1310 6 st; 686 Magunson, Lexington; 687 G Stewart, Nickerson; 688 J Jessup, Clay Center, 689 R Butler, Omaha, 2762 Webster st; 690 H H Harvey Omaha 2215 Mil ave; 691 J Hermon, Ohioa; 692 J C Lindquist, bx 361 Wakefield

A Flashlight Hint.

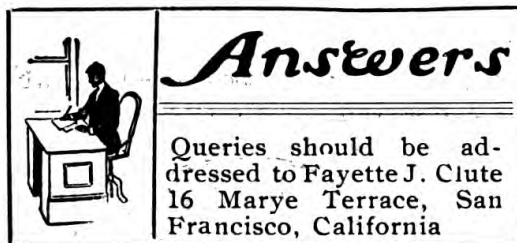
Diffusion of light from the discharge of a flash powder is one of the most important elements of successful lighting of the portrait sitter. If the light is allowed to fall directly upon the features without the interposition of a screen or diffusing medium the shadows will be much too sharply cut and the whole effect of the portrait will be black and white instead of being characterized by soft gradations. A piece

of thin linen or cheesecloth spread tightly on a frame or suspended between the source of light and the sitter's face tends to soften the shadows very materially and give a much more pleasing effect.

In photographic interiors, this tendency to harshness asserts itself particularly where the size of the room is such that a single flash is not sufficient to penetrate into the deeper parts. In such cases a partial exposure should be made by the use of daylight, and after the plate has been nearly exposed a flash powder should be set off and the exposure finished by the light thus obtained.

An important part of this procedure is to locate the flash so that it shall illuminate the view from the same general direction as that from which the exposure was begun. This will do away with cross lights and shadows running in opposite directions and will give a brighter and more snappy look to the interior than if the exposure is carried out entirely by the aid of the daylight.

The beginner is warned in this, as in all other flash-light work, that due precaution be exercised against fire and also against an explosion of the flash compound itself. Most of those obtainable at the supply stores are practically safe if the printed directions accompanying them are carefully observed.



G. R. F.: AN EFFECTIVE BORDER: This correspondent sends a small print received from abroad and wishes to know how the black border line with white margin is made.

The black line immediately surrounding the print is made by using a knife and straight edge and removing the film from the negative to the desired width all around. Outside of this line the negative may be made to print white by being covered by strips of lantern-slide binding. For some subjects this method will be found most effective, and will repay the trouble taken to prepare the negative.

W. J. F.: MEASUREMENT OF SHUTTER SPEED: Invert a bicycle and fasten to the rear tire by wax or tape a brass ball or button, a lens or some other convex reflecting surface. Set up the camera with the lens exactly in the line of the axis of the wheel. The position of both should be such that the reflection of the sun should be visible on the ground glass. Holding a watch to one's ear, practice turning the wheel by means of the pedal so that the pedal shall make one revolution during four ticks of the watch, or four fifths of a second. This will be easy after two or three minutes' practice. Now divide the number of teeth on the front sprocket by the number on the rear sprocket. This is the number of revolutions of the

wheel in four-fifths or .8 seconds. Divide 0.8 by this number and it will give the time of revolution of the wheel. Make the exposure and develop, and either on the plate or a print draw radii of the circle through the extreme points of the streak showing the movement of the spot of flight. Measure this angle either by a protractor or by constructing its sine, and find what proportion it is of the whole circumference. The time of exposure will be the same proportion of the time of revolution of the wheel.

Save Your Spoiled Film.

Talking about saving things, let me suggest that the celluloid films which you throw away may be put to good use as well as glass plates. Clean the emulsion off and then dissolve them in acetone until you have a solution of about the consistency of thin syrup. You can coat a pasteboard box cover with this varnish and then use it for a tray; give your transparencies a coat of it and they can then be wiped off with a wet rag when soiled; give your bottle labels a coat of it and they will not become stained or soak off; in fact, you will find hundreds of uses to which this solution can be put. It could no doubt be colored and used to coat clear glass for the ruby lamp. Diluted somewhat, it would make a fine protection for prints liable to be soiled or scratched. Used for this purpose, the excess should be carefully blotted off before allowing it to dry. I think a trial would convince any one of the desirability of keeping it always on hand. It could be made useful in other parts of the house, and thus perhaps lessen the contempt felt by certain members of the household for "those photographic chemicals."—Western Camera Notes.

This club meets in St. Louis 3rd week of August. Over 9000 members with other clubs that meet. Details in full later.

American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.
Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
shipcard sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.



- | | |
|---|---|
| 4810 G A Schafer Salem Oregon | 5 G Dietz Olden Mo |
| 1 L Nelson Goodhue Minn | 6 R Jorden Asherville N C |
| 2 E Holly Buena Vista Colo Box 192 | 7 G Graham Graham Tex |
| 3 W E White, Toronto Canada 248 Adelaide St | 8 J Lindsey Carrier 5 Seattle Wash |
| 4 Dr E Chase N Y City 68 E 90 St | 9 D Duggan Toronto Canada 146 Duke St |
| 5 P Proutz Washington D C 728 9 St N E | 4840 C Durkworth Burnum W Va Box 27 |
| 6 G Damm Brooklyn N Y 246 Stag St | 1* W Roscoe Buenos Aires Arg Rep Adrou |
| 7 L Desmarias Los Gatos Calif | 2* Lida Weatherhead Cleveland O 136 Scott St |
| 8 G Stough Durango Cal | 3* E Dongherty Fresno Cal Box 989 |
| 6 W Morrill Lynn Mass 21 Arlington St | 4* A Taylor 116 Whitehall Rd Gate head on Tynne Eng |
| 4820 T Bailey Susan St Newtown Sydney Australia | 5* W Dodson Bettws-Y-Coed N Wales |
| 1 Mary White American School Marsovan Turkey | 6* L Rhylick Cleveland O 1536 Bdway |
| 2 T F McNamara Racine Wis 1801 Spring St | 7* R L Payne Xyt Church Barbadoes |
| 3 C Thomas Aberdeen Scotland | 8* A Nell Denver Col 2557 W 32 ave |
| 4 I Pitman Savannah Ga 1250 Glethorpe | 9* A Montgomery Denver 1865 W Colfax |
| 5 W Taylor Rotterdam Eng II Clifton Mount | 4850* F Mackenne Providence R I 161 Hudson |
| 6 S Ganson Box 401 Lockport Ill | 1* V F Sands Buffalo N Y |
| 7 E Mill Hika Wis | 2* J Straus box 333 Monte Vista Colo |
| 8 H Crosby Great Falls Mont | 3* E Fowler Hammond Ind 36 State St |
| 9 H Baldwin Hampton Ia | 4* M Ciameth Posta Italy Cagliari |
| 4830 H Browning Indianapolis Ind, | 5* J Leomond San Diego Cal 759 11 st |
| 1 D Lee Carson City Nev | 6* J Dick Firth Neb |
| 2 H Jennings Valentine Neb Box 183 | 7* W Flanders Lowell Mass 393 Beacon |
| 3 S Connely Atchison Kan | |
| 4 Rose J K Foster Olivet Mich 36 Church St | |

*Exchange Souvenir cards.

- 9* J D Cox Upper St Wicke N S Can.
 4860 J Blackburn Box 113Georgetown
 British Guiana
 1 E J Allee Milwaukee 1730 Minn
 Meniecka
 2 I Lockwood Ossett Yorks Eng
 3 H Bassett Tuscol Ill
 4 S S Abbott Sugar Grove Pa
 5 Mrs J Gibson Missoula Mont
 6 J Weil Paduch Ky
 7 G French Ivorytown Ct.
 8 W Watson Vail Ia
 7 F Johnson St I G Seattle Wash
 4870 Mrs A Brown Burlington Kan.
 1 J Barker Calias Me Box 177
 2 A Hyde Sherman Tex
 3 M Voglesang Grand Rapids
 Mich
 4 A Thorson Mead Neb Box 177
 5 H Mormyer Klamath Agency
 Oregon
 6 J Lefavour Park City Utah Box
 7 O Zepp Montreal Canada 777
 City Hall Ave
 8 M Welsh Chico Va

Hints From My Own Practice.

By George D. Steele.

A few methods which are in every day used by me in my photographic work may possibly prove beneficial to some of my fellow members. With this hope in view, I will numerate one or two of them.

An easy and also sure way of washing film negatives (and actually removing every trace of hypo) is to pin the film to a board about one-half inch in thickness, and of sufficient length and breadth to extend slightly beyond the edges of the film. Place your hand in a bathtub with the film down. There is no danger of the film being scratched; six to ten strips, if necessary, may be washed at once in the tub; the hypo, being of greater density than water, falls to the bottom and is carried away at once; less sediment will be deposited on the delicate gelatine than by having a direct stream of water strike it. Washing in this way applies, of

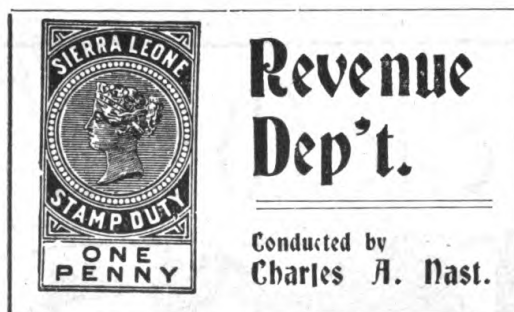
course, when the negatives have been developed in a strip. I used a washing tank six feet long and four feet wide, and in the four years I have used it I have never had a single mishap nor a cause for complaint.

A hardener which I use constantly in summer for plates and film follows:

Into an 8x10 tray nearly filled with water I place one-half ounce of Scherings Formalin. Then I take the negatives from the fixing bath, wash off the surplus hypo and immerse in the above hardener for about two minutes. The usual washing completes the operation. The negative will have taken on a slightly brownish tint, which is, of course, beneficial in printing.

If my readers will take the precaution to carry a sheet or two of paraffined, or waxed paper, and a small piece of hard glue in their carrying cases, much trouble and loss of temper might sometime be saved. I was caught unprepared once, and have had occasion to make use of this little scheme several times since by unfortunately breaking a ground glass. Unless your glass is splintered so that it falls out, put your paper on the side of the glass that has the ground surface, and secure by either heat or glue. If your glass is entirely out of the frame, wet the glue and smear on the recess for the glass, put the paper in and hold a warm finger on the corners until secure. This paper may be readily attached to a piece of clear glass by gentle heat and slight pressure. I usually place the clear glass between two of my holders in the case, and no extra room is taken up.

Finally, let me impress upon you the advantage of using the clearness with which a view is seen on the ground glass, in connection with your exposure tables or meter. A dull image, even though the light be good in other surrounding places' means more time, and for scenes in the woods, expose for the shadows and detail—the high lights will come right later on in developing and printing.



It has been sometime since I could sit down and "thing" revenues. A press of private business kept me out of the last issue of the WEST and I thought I never would be missed. But from all sides come letters of inquiry and this has proven to me that not a few are interested in these hurriedly written notes, all of which is very gratifying to my vanity and philatelic pride.

Some time ago the city of Denver, Col., offered through its Chamber of Commerce and Bureau of Publicity cash prizes aggregating a hundred dollars to the person who would submit the best motto and design to be used as a slogan for advertising the Queen of the Rockies. The prize was awarded to a gentleman whose design consisted of a female figure holding a banner in her outstretched hand, with the single word "Forward". I thought at the time the thing had a familiar look and air but dismissed it at the time. Lately in looking over some old revenues I found that Brandreth's Pills Co used the word "Forward" on the 1 cent block, and later when stamps were no longer necessary they used a trade mark containing the same word on a banner held aloft by a female figure. All of which proves that it pays to be a stamp collector, and to study closely the designs on the m & m stamps.

Mr. Spinony writes concerning the the 2c ultramarine playing card stamp

of 6c issue. It is listed only as rouletted. For his information I will say that it is known in blocks of four imperforate and latterly it has been perforated. Although the catalog does not list these varieties it is nevertheless no proof that they do not list. It simply proves that the catalog is not "up to date."

As is well known the surcharge on the 98 proprietaries of the Jayne people viz: "Dr. D. J. & S." have been for convenience divided into three types. Type I consists of small thin letters and figures. Type II, small thick letters and figures; type III, large thick letters and figures. However, it is now necessary without noting the innumerable minor varieites to add a fourth. Type IV consists of the thin letters and thick figures being a compound of numbers one and three. This fourth type is found upon the following $\frac{1}{8}$ ct "9-1-99"; on the $\frac{3}{8}$ ct and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ct the date is "7-1-98;" on the $2\frac{1}{2}$ ct also the added difference of only two naughts instead of the full 1900, on this last the date for type four is "4-9-00." Full sheets having been found in o. g. unused state being responsible for this new evidence.

The rarest part perforate known is the 3c proprietary of the first issue although listed at only \$15. Only three copies were ever found and these were uncovered on the backs of photographs in Los Angeles, California. They were roughly torn apart but the two on the strength of which they were catalogued unmistakably joined together. The third copy did not match this pair but had the same initials thereon, and was also found on a photograph.

The \$10 mortgage has lately been

found in pairs and blocks and imperforate state. One block of mine is 3x3 and is probably unique in this size.

* * * * *

In a letter from Rev. A. R. Whitmer in respects to the lists recently published in the WEST, he has the $\frac{1}{4}$ c Chas Fletcher inverted surcharge; also on the $\frac{3}{8}$ rubber stamp cancellation of his firm which is extremely rare consisting of the words "The Centaur Co" and "New York" in a circle, and the date "Oct. 15, 1899" in the center.

* * * * *

Interest in the pre-cancellations on the revenue and match and medicine stamps of the Civil War days and later is fast assuming satisfactory proportions.

* * * * *

Says an Eastern exchance:
The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has just decided a case involving the use of documentary stamps at even this late date, recently brought to his attention for a decision. It appears that away back in 1865 an instrument was drawn up requiring a power of attorney" stamp, which for some reason was omitted. Of late the question of validity of the instrument has been raised, minus the \$1 stamp, and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue had decided that the instrument is invalid until a \$1 revenue stamp shall be affixed and cancelled, and the sum of \$10 as penalty paid into the United States Treasury. The holder of the instrument is not compelled to affix the revenue stamp, but if it is desired that the afore said power of atty shall be valid and in force it will cost \$11 to make it effective.

* * * * *

I notice that the present catalog's prices are being adjusted occasionally. What the matter with regulating some of the prices amoug the 98 revenues?

The used specimen 4 of the $\frac{5}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ c values are much too high. One cent each is plenty for these. The idea of putting 4c on the used $2\frac{1}{2}$ cent which has seen duty on the one dollar bottle of medicine millions of times is simply ridiculous. I won't say any more now but the inequalities of this part of the catalogue gives one a tired feeling.

* * * * *

The $2\frac{1}{2}$ cent orange Emerson Drug Co. is priced much too low, while the $2\frac{1}{2}$ cent red with their type printed surcharge on it is very rare. Pre-cancelled collectors should look out for it, also for all values with their short form "E. D. Co." cancellation.

The Earl of Crawford is supposed to be the owner of the most complete collection of stamps of the United States in the world.

When one considers the amount of money that yearly changes hands merely through postage stamps one realizes that this trade has become something more than mere child's play.

The total number of ordinary special-delivery and postage-due stamps, postal cards and stamped envelopes issued to postmasters during the year was 7,034,732,035, and the value in money \$129,430,173.01.

The homliest stamp in existence is said to be the 2c shilling, 6 pence blue of Falkland islands.

The subject of remainders is also a "thorn in the flesh" Postal authorities have no more right to sell them for philatelic purposes than they would have to issue bank notes which they are not prepared to honor on presentation.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the
dues of those below, are requested to send a
copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst
gebeten ein Tauschexemplar regelmassig an
den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont pries
i'envoyer un exemplaire en echange a l'ad-
resse sous-donnee.

Deseames recibir esemplares de cambio de
las publicaciones filatelicas estranjers a la
adresa enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149, Manchester, Wis. U S A

Most of us know all too little about
the various celebrities depicted on so
many stamps in our collections and for
this reason articles dealing with the
biographies of these persons are to be
welcomed. For this reason I quote to
some extent from an interesting arti-
cle in No. 39 of SZEKULA BRIEFMARK-
EN-VERKEHR which gives us consider-
able information in regard to the por-
traits found on the 1892 issues of Par-
aguay (Scott Nos. 32 to 39 and No. 57).
The article says:

"On March 1, 1870, President Lobe-
z (of Paraguay) succumbed on the
banks of the Aquidaban with the last
remnant of his army to the united eff-
orts of the Brazilian, Argentine and
Uruguayan troops - - All Para-
guay was in the power of the allies af-
ter a slaughter of five years. The
country was devastated; the popula-
tion had fallen from 1,337,000 in 1857
to a sixth of that number, about 200,-
000, and consisted of women and chil-
dren almost entirely.

In July 1870 a preliminary treaty of
peace was concluded at Asuncion be-
tween the victorious allies and the pro-
visional government of the republic,
consisting of Rivarola, Loizaga and

Diaz de Bedoya, and in the beginning
of August Cirile Antonie Rivarola was
elected President of Paraguay (1 cen-
tavos stamp, orthography corrected to
1 centavo in 1896). Differences having
arisen between him and congress, he
pronounced, towards the end of 1871,
the dissolution of congress which con-
tinued its sessions outside of Asun-
cion. The president applied for aid to
the Argentine and Brazilian garrison,
but the plenipotentiaries declined to
interfere and Rivarola had to resign.
The Vice-President Salvador Sovel-
lanos was called to the head of the
state for three years on December 12,
1871 (2 centavos stamp). On October
11, 1874 he was succeeded by Juan
Bautista Gill (4 centavos stamp), for-
merly Secretary of the Treasury, who
applied himself to the restoration of
the national credit until he was assas-
inated together with his brother,
Emilio Gill, in 1877. A revolution
broke out and the Vice President Ol-
ginio Uriarte took charge of affairs un-
til Nov. 25, 1878 (5 centavos stamp).
He was succeeded by Bareiro (10 cen-
tavos stamp) whose administration
was a period of recovery. He exer-
cised the supreme power until Novem-
ber 25, 1882, when B. Caballero
was called to the presidency (14 cen-
tavos stamp) whose administration was
a period of recovery. He exercised
the supreme power until November 25,
1886 (20 centavos stamp). Under Gon-
zales, elected in 1890 (30 centavos
this set was issued so that the higher
values appeared in the figure type, be-
cause there were no more dignitaries
to be honored, until 1901 General Eg-
uzquiza was assigned to the 1 peso.

One cannot but notice the absence
from this presidential gallery of three
persons whose names are celebrated
in the history of South America:
Francia and the two Lopez. Dr. Fran-

cia during a quarter century, from 1816 to 1840, exercised such a power that he could decree the complete inhibition of all intercourse between Paraguay and the other countries of the globe, while maintaining peace and welfare within the interior.—His nephew Carlos Lopez ruled wisely, though despotically from 1844 to 1862, extended education and resisted the Argentine dictator Rosas by force of arms.—Francisco Solano Lopez son of the preceding and his successor in 1862, was a tenacious and energetic character, a patriot passionately devoted to the advancement of his country and its independence, falling in the front ranks by the side of that young Englishwoman, Elisa Lynch who had taken his part for love of him and who charged the hostile batallions at the head of her squadron of Amazons. Is it not regrettable that circumstances of a political nature excluded from the series of 1892 the portraits of these three first presidents?"

Our contemporary announces that the Bulgarian postal authorities have called for designs for a new stamp which are to be issued on the occasion of the unveiling of the monument to Czar Alexander II., the "Zar Oswoboditel" (Czar Liberator). The design must include: the monument, the dates 1877-1903 and the value 10 stotinki. The ornaments must be Bulgarian. Two prizes are offered, 120 francs and 80 francs; the unveiling is to take place in August. The Bulgarians will shortly equal our own record in commemorative issues.

No. 282 of *LE COLLECTIONNEUR de TIMBRES-POSTE* illustrates the new stamp for French Indo-china. It is an adaptation of the design submitted by Grassett in 1896 in the competition of that year for a French stamp. The

chief change is that the lictor's fasces and the wreath at the left of the bust have been replaced by an anchor. Beneath the stamp one can read the letters BT in a monogram at the left and the letter G at the right. The impression of the only stamp out so far, the 15c is said to be miserable.

Stamps with the portrait of King Peter are due to appear in Servia during May. The die has been engraved by M. Tassett, an engraver of the mint at Paris, and the plates were made in Paris, but the printing is being done at the Royal Printing Office at Belgrade. The set comprises eleven values, one more than the last, being the 30 paras.

No. 11 of *LA COTE REELLE* is entirely devoted to the description of an exhibition of French stamps held at the rooms of M. Lemaire, the publisher, from the 3d to the 7th of March. The stamps were not for sale, being the property of a French collector. They were evidently an exceedingly interesting lot. The collection of essays and proofs is particularly magnificent, containing pieces almost unique. Of the first issue of France no less than 502 stamps were shown, of which 172 were unused!

As usual *EL FILATELICO ESPAÑOL* devotes most of its space to the interesting fiscals of Spain in its No. 42; it deals with the match stamps of 1874, quoting the laws relative thereto. Such studies are very valuable to the fiscalist and we should be pleased to see the fiscals of other countries taken up by competent hands in a similar manner.—A portrait of the author of these fiscal sketches is given in this number; it is Dr. Francisco Carreras Y Candi, Honorary President of the

Catalonian Philatelic Society.—Pages 32 to 36 of the Catalogue of Spanish Fiscals accompany this number.

Senf's ILLUSTRIRTES BRIEFMARK-EN-JOURNAL in No. 605 warns against faked Greek postage due stamps; its correspondent says:

"Because of the very poor perforation of these stamps a large percentage of used specimens is damaged; corner teeth are gone and the stamps are often torn into. Such damaged stamps are refused singly, but in large lots they are sorted out and sold to small dealers. Now there are people here, (in Athens) who buy all these damaged postage dues, and re-perforate them, thus making them either shorter or narrower. Some days ago 200 copies of the 1 drachme postage dues were offered me for sale. The price asked was so low as to arouse my suspicion; a comparison with stamps of my own stock showed that all of the 200 were either too short or too narrow."

It therefore behooves to be suspicious of such re-perforated stamps; they will no doubt be offered here also.

MADRID FILATELICO is again a welcome visitor to the exchange table. No. 74 contains nothing calling for special mention, but it brings eight pages of the valuable work on the stamps of Spain, which has now reached page 176.

Now France has its official stamp prosecution. La Revue Postale in No. 82 reports as follows:

"A captain of the 144th Regiment of

the Line, garrisoned at Bordeaux, has been placed under arrest March 20th under the charge of a theft of stamps. The officer in question, Captain T., is a philatelist. In remounting his album some one noticed that a page was filled with military frank stamps eighteen or twenty of them. This somebody notified Lieut.-Colonel Gard who in turn notified Colonel Quevillon. He inquired of the Captain who avowed that the stamps in his album came from the stock on hand for the use of the privates of his company. He denied any felonious intention, explaining that he simply desired to complete his collection and that the stamps had no value, as they could not be used for postage by anyone else. The Colonel ordered him under arrest pending a court-martial. General Lellorain, commanding the army corps, to whom the affair was submitted, maintained the order of arrest and on the demand of General Andre, Secretary of War, sent to the latter a detailed report. What may be the consequences of the affair one cannot tell as yet.—The captain is married and father of a family."

It seems that in Europe unused official stamps are good things to leave alone. Great Britain had its sensational case relative to them; Germany followed its example and now France is making it hot for the collector. Fortunately Uncle Sam was more liberal in the days of our official stamps.

El Filatelico Espanol in no. 43 complains as follows in regard to the proposed issue of stamps commemorative of the tercentenary of Cervantes Don Quijote.

We deeply lament that all our imitative is defeated by the indifference of

those whose business it would be to convert our proposals into reality and that the latest advices indicate that they do not treat the matter with the seriousness it would deserve.

Of course such a set would be highly interesting, but I doubt whether we others outside of Spain view its non-appearance with as much grief as our Spanish brethren. Don Quijote needs no postage stamps to lend him fame; his immortal fame would survive the stamps.

The fiscal part of No. 43 deals with the stamps for stock exchange transactions and for playing cards in the usual able manner.

—

Our Argentine contemporary, the *Revista*, concludes its ninth volume with No. 110. We wish it continued prosperity and faithful service to the cause of Philately. Its nine volumes are a store-house of information, especially on the stamps of South America.

—

An article of great interest in No. 26 of Field's *Briefmarken-Offertenblatt* deals with forgeries of the Greek surcharges of 1900. The descriptions are rather too long for reproduction here: I quote only the following general characters;

The black color of the forged surcharges generally is lighter and weaker than that of the originals; where it shows the same deep black as the originals, it is dustier and sootier. As in most cases cancelled stamps were used for the forgeries, the old postmarks often serve to betray the counterfeit by the year and by being under the surcharge. Where the forger has used stamping ink to paint the cancellation over the surcharge, one can always tell this by means of a good lens. The forged surcharges, being struck

by hand, very much in strength and as they are usually impressed much more lightly than the originals, which were produced by printing press, the letters and figures are not printed as evenly and clearly as on the originals and do not show as plainly on the back of the stamps.

The following dangerous forgeries (some of them even printed with the original type) are described in detail:

20 lepta on 25 lepta blue, inverted, inverted double impression and several other varieties.

40 lepta on 2 lepta brown, double surcharge together with a genuine surcharge; single surcharge with E inverted in Lepta.

1 draehme on 40 lepta violet with Λ. M. U. in the place of A.

2 drachmai on 40 lepta violet

3 " " 10 " orange

5 " " 40 " violet

AM 50 lepta on 25 lepta blue;

AM 2 drachmai on 5 lepta green

AM 5 lepta on 1 draehme blue

Look out for all these and have them compared by some competent person; they are being offered over here also.

—

The valuable article on the stamps of the Transvaal, 1869-1883 issues is concluded in the *Stamp Collector* for March. In this second part the forgeries made by Otto, the engraver of the originals, are described and illustrated by means of enlarged engravings. I wish my space permitted me to quote at length from this article. As it should be easy to distinguish these semiofficial forgeries by means of the description here given. The frame of these stamps was genuine, Otto having retained one; the center is an imitation. The 1d, 6 and 1 shilling exist in these semi-forgeries.

NETHERLANDS.

By Geo. C. Asby

Netherlands stands pre-eminent among the few philatelically respectable countries; it is alike a boon to the amateur and the specialist. Its catalogued varieties may be completed as cheaply, if not more so, than any other country, while in varieties of shades and perforations, it offers an almost unlimited and unknown field for the specialist.

There are no speculative stamps, no surcharges and, with one exception, no reprints. In 1893 a printer in Utrecht reproduced the 10c of the 1852 issue in various colors on cardboard, but these are even more scarce than the originals.

Its issues certainly present enough variety of design to suit the most fastidious. The 1864 issue, the finely executed head of King William, a design as exquisite in coloring as an old painting, later the coat-of-arms then an issue of numerals, followed by the delight of the boy collectors, the head of the young queen, as they say in Holland, "met hangend haar" and lastly the well designed present issue, in which the variety and blending of the bi-colored stamps is a delight to all.

Scott's catalogue leaves much to be desired in the way of varieties; true they list practically all the older stamps as imperforate, still only one complete sheet was issued in this manner, and it is well nigh impossible to obtain very many of these now. But there are many possibly only "minor varieties" that are of greater interest than these imperforates.

The designs themselves are familiar so I will not go into details as regards them. The first stamps were issued on January 1, 1852. They are on hard to soft, hand-made, white wove paper, watermarked with a post horn sus-

pended by a sling having a single loop. The gum varies from white to brown. Quite often the paper of the 5c is tinted by the ink giving it a bluish tinge, and sometimes the 10c from the same cause appears to be on rose paper. The letter "C" differs in each value. The 5c and 10c occur printed from worn plates, which show no shading lines in the background. Possibly this is true of the 15c also.

The second issue occurred in July, 1864. These were perforated on medium weight, unwatered, handmade paper. The subsequent printing in January, 1865, was on the same grade of machine made paper.

The gum on these stamps varies from a white to brown, and they are also found on a slightly bluish paper. These are of the 1866-67 printing.

The third issue—1867—was on white wove, unwatermarked, machine made paper—also on a bluish paper.

Two complete sets of this issue may be made, the difference in the types being in the shape and shading of the figures of value. Without going into detail with each value, a general difference is that in the second type, the figures, though better shaped, are more heavily shaded and more blotchy than in the first type. Also in the 20c of the first type, and in the 5c and 10c of the second type there is a break in the colored line over the figures.

The 1869-70 issue on white or bluish unwatermarked, wove paper was designed to pay postage on printed matter, newspapers, etc. The ½c black often seen and sometimes sold as a rarity is nothing more than an essay. The only noticeable variety is in the 1c, which appears with and without the period after "cent" in both black and green. The paper in the 1872-5 issue varies greatly from hard to soft, and from very thick to very thin, white wove, as bluish. There are numerous varieties in this

issue, the most common of which are the following:

- (1.) 5c with two varieties of 5's.
- (2.) 12½c with a large round spot under the neck.
- (3.) 12½c on ribbed paper.
- (4.) 20c with a break in the right side of the frame.
- (5.) 20c with a dot under the "o."
- (6.) 25c with a split "T."
- (7.) 25c with two breaks in the left side of the frame.
- (8.) 25c on horizontally laid paper.
- (9.) 50c without a line above the value.
- (10.) 50c with two varieties of ciphers.

The 1876 issue replaces the fourth issue as a stamp for second-class matter. It is on white wove, ribbed, or thin smooth paper.

There are but few varieties here, i e, ½c with the "c" varying in size, 1c with a break below the figure in the upper right hand corner circle, also with part of the upper scroll missing, and the 2½c with a broken frame.

The 1891-94 issue is on white wove and thin surfaced paper. Forty copies of the 5c were issued in the color of the 3c, of these the postoffice department recovered twenty copies, and the other twenty were probably used although but two used copies are known.

The 1898-99 issue is on tough white wove surfaced paper. A small issue of the one gulden was gotten out in time for the coronation of Queen Wilhelmina and when the regular issue appeared the one gulden had been slightly altered. It is easily distinguished by the figures of value being thinner in the regular issue.

And now but a word in regard to the postage due stamps—there are two of 5c in the first issue, in the second issue, the value on the gulden stamps is in either bright red or vermillion. There are a great number of slight varieties, more due to the inking than to any defect in the plates. In the 1894 issue Scott's catalogue gives both types as ultramarine, but it is a fact that Type I is deep blue, and Type III ultramarine,

ODDS AND ENDS.

By Dr. C. F. Noe.

Probably every stamp collector accumulates in the course of time certain stamps, envelopes or similar objects for which no spaces are provided in his album and for which he searches the catalogue in vain. Undoubtedly a description of all such stamps held by collectors would form a highly interesting book, so I will here give a short review of some of the odds and ends of my collection, and hope to arouse thereby enough interest to lead others to do the same. First I will mention a 2c 1887 envelope on oriental buff paper, which is a distinct die variety. It was in use during the year 1891, and I found at that time a description of it in one of the stamp Journals, after the specimen had been in my possession several months. It differs from the type in that the head is fully 1 mm. wider from side to side when measured at the level of the nose; when once seen the difference is readily appreciated as the head seems to fill the central oval much more than in the ordinary variety. I have looked over thousands of the common type in search of this die, but have only succeeded in finding two, both on oriental buff and both dated 1891. Why it was never admitted to the catalogues is only known to the powers that be.

Of the same issue I have a 2c envelope stamp cut to shape and used as an adhesive, and a 1c albino on Manila, both of which passed through the mail unchallenged. I also have a 2c 1887 envelope with a capped 2, just as distinct as the well known capped variety of the adhesive and probably

due to the same cause.

An easily distinguished uncatalogued variety is the 5c of 1882 and 1888 with background of crossed lines. Double perforations also furnish a large field for oddities. I have a beautiful copy of the 3c rose 1861 double perforated, besides a number of others of the later issues.

Among the revenues we have numerous chances of picking up uncatalogued varieties. The most distinct are those printed in ultramarine color, of which the following are known: 2c Bank Check, 2c Proprietary, 10c Certificate, Contract, 10c Foreign Exchange, 50c Conveyance, 50c Surety Bond and \$15 Mortgage. These are distinct varieties and for the sake of completeness should be in every catalogue. For a short time the first issue revenues were printed on a thick white paper readily distinguishable from the so called old paper, it contains no silk fibre and constitutes a separate variety.

Oddities in perforation are plentiful amongst revenues. I remember finding several pairs of the 2c Express blue, which were unperforate vertically, and double perforate horizontally. I also have several bearing the imprint of the engraver, all of them poorly centered, so that on one side the perforations took in that part of the margin bearing the imprint. Nearly all the values of the first issue Proprietary stamps can be found surcharged with the initials of firms using them, and can be considered just as collectable as the surcharged Spanish war proprietaries.

The stamped paper of the United

States is a much neglected field on which we have no catalogue later than Sterlings, issued in 1888. The writer has a large variety of these mementos of the civil war and they form an interesting part of the collection.

Many a collector is ignorant of the fact that our country has issued 473 varieties of stamps printed on documents, the denominations ranging from 1c to 1 dollar.

Among the foreigners I will only mention a few. In a wholesale lot from South America I once found a pair of Bolivia 1c 1893 imperforate horizontally, which is not catalogued, although its twin brother, imperforate vertically, has won that distinction.

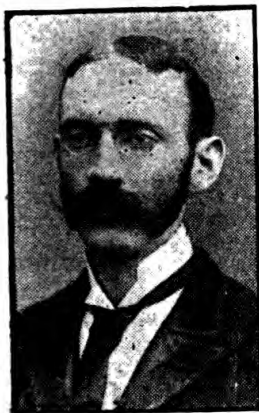
Among my British envelope stamps are two 1½d. brown of 1870, one with an outer line around the stamp, and the other one without it. I will also mention a cover bearing a ½d. rose Victoria wrapper cut square and used as an adhesive in combination with a 2d lilac.

Among the Wurttemberg envelopes I find a number of albinos. I was much elated when I found the first one of these, but was soon disillusioned by the discovery of the fact that there must be just as many albinos of these stamps as there are colored copies, because the envelopes of this country are stamped after they are folded and consequently they all bear a colorless impression of the stamp upon their back.

All the above mentioned oddities were accumulated while making a general collection and without paying any special attention to them as a class. Doubtless there are collectors who make a special study of them, and who would be able to furnish a comprehensive list of great interest and value to every collector.

A Plea For The Fiends

B y W P Y o u n g



It is said that poets are born not made, and in my mind there's no doubt as to the truthfulness of the assertion. Collectors are also born, although occasionally one is made by force of circumstances, but he is not quite so much of a success. Collectors are as a

rule inclined to be rather sensitive, they are constituted capable of extreme enjoyment, such as is totally unknown to the common herd, and surely they are to be envied.

Anticipation, realization and collection journeying through the active brain of the average collector oftentimes will soften the word or the unkind deed.

I entered the world with the collecting instinct fully developed and at an early age possessed the finest collection of teething-rings in the town, A few autumns rose and fell and I gathered together as good an assortment of building blocks as any child in the country, and my collection of leaden soldiers was the admiration and boast of my native state. Pages have been written concerning my aggregation of spools and my colossal accumulation of alphabet cards was the envy of the world, and before many moons had bloomed and faded my assemblage of business cards were noted far and wide.

What is the use of collecting? Life is almost too short to answer this in detail, so I will merely outline a few of the arguments. Volumes could be written portraying the endless round of pleasure in the collectors life, but pleasure is but a small portion of the glorious whole. I assume that one of the most important things in this life is an all-around education, and I am not at all afraid of contradiction when I make the statement that the best method of absorbing knowledge is by intelligent and systematic collecting.

The stamp fiend can point out any country or principality on the globe, with his eyes shut, he can give a fairly accurate idea as to its area, population, climate and the habits, customs, the picture, and the eloquence of oration rings through his brain. He has traversed the equator with Du Chaillu and approached the pole with Greely. All lands are his and he has journeyed on every sea.

The rock fiend knows now our world created and of what it is composed. He knows the beauty deep, hidden in the earth's interior, and the gems scattered over desert places. The wonders of prehistoric life are to him as an open book, the ends of the earth have contributed to the fund of knowledge and consequent happiness.

The relic fiend pushes aside the curtain and can show primitive man as he first appeared on his terrestrial sphere, and he can follow him by gradual stages, from that time to the present day.

Little by little the collector adds to his treasures and to his stock of knowledge until, as in some cases that have come under my personal observation, he has finally come to be an authority on his special hobby.

(To be continued).

PRECANCELLED DUES.

By E. R. Aldrich.

When collectors first turned their attention to precancelled postage stamps, both the ordinary series and those denoting deficiency of postage were considered upon a collectable equality, but about a year ago a number of the leading collectors of this branch of philately decided that a due stamp could not be precancelled as it did not meet the requirements of the regulations laid down by the postal department. I wonder if these same collectors discard due stamps from their regular stamp collection because they do not conform to the requirements of a prepaying adhesive. I anticipate not. Be that as it may, I for one have still retained the dues in my precancelled collection. The earlier lists of precancelled did not fail to include them and the recent catalogue of Messrs. Smith and Duck also give a partial list. In the following list where my types would conflict with those of that catalogue I have designated my types by letter instead of number. With two or three exceptions, which have been designated (?), I either have the variety or it has been vouched for by a fellow collector. I should be pleased to hear of any variety I have not listed.

Colorado.

Pueblo—Two types, the first in two horizontal curved lines, Pueblo, Colo., P. O., the second an oval office cancellation impressed so as to cover four stamps.

1. 1c. Type I.
2. 2c.
3. 5c.
4. 10c.
5. 10c. Type I, vertical (?)
6. 1c. Type II.
7. 2c.
8. 5c.
9. 10c.

Connecticut.

Ansonia—1, 2, 5 and 10 can be found

both normal and invert, but all specimens I have seen are of the type considered counterfeit.

Illinois.

Chicago—Current type of surcharge.

1. 1c.
2. 1c. Invert.
3. 2c.
- 3a. 2c. Illinois at top, two lines and Chicago at bottom. A variety caused by careless feeding of press.

Kentucky.

Louisville—Sheet cancelled with hand stamper.

1. 1c.
2. 2c.
3. 5c.

Maryland.

Baltimore—Sheet cancelled with office stamp, impression covering four stamps.

1. 1c. (?)
2. 2c.

Massachusetts.

Lynn. Two types. The most noticeable difference in the letter N, it having cross bars in type II.

1. 1c. Type I.
2. 2c.
3. 3c.
4. 5c.
5. 10c.
6. 1c. Type II.
7. 2c.

Northampton—Three types, first, type A, hand stamped with circular office stamp covering two stamps, except on No. 3, where it is placed over corners of four; type B, same as first, ordinary type, Northampton, Mass., with no lines; type C, same (as Smith Type v) large letters, Northampton Mass., diagonally printed.

1. 1c 1893. Type A.
2. 2c.
3. 1c 1894-5.
4. 2c.
5. 1c. Type B.
6. 2c.
7. 5c.
8. 10c.
9. 1c. Type C.
10. 2c.
11. 5c.
12. 10c.
13. 1c. Type C, error NASS.
14. 2c.
15. 5c.
16. 10c.

Michigan.

Battle Creek—Two line horizontal inscription, Battle Creek, Mich., between double rules.

1. 1c. (?)
2. 1c invert.
3. 2c.

Detroit—Two line horizontal inscription, Detroit, Mich., between single rule.

1. 1c.
2. 1c invert.
3. 2c.
4. 2c invert. (?)
5. 5c.

Detroit, Station C—Three line inscription between rules.

1. 1c.

2. 2c.

Minnesota.

Minneapolis—Type A, single ruled line; type B, Minneapolis, Minn., in two lines and date; type C, same without date.

1. 2c. Type A.
2. 1c. Sept. Type B.
3. 1c. Type C.
4. 1c invert.

Ohio.

Akron—Type A, the early diamond shape design; type B, Akron, Ohio, between lines.

1. 2c. Type A.
2. 1c 1893. Type B.
3. 2c 1893.

Cincinnati—Vertical two line inscription, Cincinnati, Ohio, between rules.

1. 2c up.
2. 2c down.

Columbus—Sheet cancelled with hand stamp, cancellation covering four stamps.

1. 1c. (?)
2. 2c.

Pennsylvania.

Pittsburg—Type A, two vertical rules; type B, ornamented type variety of two line inscription.

1. 2c. Type A.
2. 2c. Type B.

Rhode Island.

Providence—Type I, vertical two line inscription, Providence, Rhode Island; type II, horizontal inscription, Providence, R. I. in two lines between double rules.

1. 1c down.
2. 2c red ink, up.
3. 2c down.
4. 2c purple ink up.
5. 2c down.
6. 1c.
7. 1c invert.
8. 2c.
9. 2c invert.
10. 10c. (?)
11. 10c invert.
12. 2c purple ink.
13. 5c purple ink.
14. 2c red ink.

Vermont.

St. Johnsbury—Type I, St. Johnsbury diagonally across. Type II, St. Johnsbury, Vermont, in two lines diagonally.

1. 1c up. Type I.
2. 1c down.
3. 2c up.
4. 2c down.
5. 3c up.
6. 5c up.
7. 10c up.
8. 1c up. Type II.
9. 1c down.
10. 2c up.
11. 2c down.
12. 3c up.
14. 5c up.
15. 10c up.

Wisconsin.

La Crosse—Two line inscription, La Crosse, Wisconsin, between lines.

1. 2c.

HIT AND MISS PAPERS NUMBER 1

Youth and Philately.

By Verna W Hathaway.

The question, "How long will Philately last?" has been often asked, but never answered, for none of us poor mortals possess the divine power of divining the future; many are of the opinion that it will exist as long as the present postal system, as long as there is food for its growth.

The most important factor in the future of Philately is the present youth; for he it is who to-morrow will be in his prime, while we of the present will be in our graves.

Perchance, dear reader, you may happen to know some young boy or girl to whom a sight of your albums will be a blessing. The love of collecting is specially apparent in the youth. So there you might illustrate the superiority of Philately over other forms of collecting, thus adding to Philatelia another devotee, and to the youth another pleasure, which through his youth, his prime, his old age, will be the chief pleasure of his life.

All parents, at least the majority, desire to educate their children properly. They desire them to be healthy, mentally, morally and physically. What parent does not desire his child to find a pleasure in the home circle to carry on a pleasureable pursuit at home? And what is Philately if it is not such a pursuit? It sharpens the intellect, arouses the aesthetic tastes, gives an abundance of useful information and learning. Unconsciously the stamp fiend acquires information on the principal topics of the world. He learns a little of all languages, he learns the manners, customs, coinage, natural history, philosophy, geog-

raphy of the entire world, he learns the names of all rulers and principal characters in many instances his stamps mark for him some important step in history or politics. And there are some persons dare, yes dare in the face of all this evidence to call stamp collecting a foolish waste of time. But it gives me pleasure to say that these mostly belong to the uneducated and ignorant class; or else perchance the assailers have never had the benefits of this science, hobby, call it what you will, properly illustrated to them. Yet there are some educated (?) persons, who, as I said before, dare to question the benefits given by Philately.

I have in my mind a pathetic story I have read or heard somewhere that illustrates the manner in which some ignorant parents view Philately. It was to the effect that a young boy collector had been presented with five dollars by his grandfather to do with as he pleased. He had pleased to spend it on what he liked better than anything else—stamps from approval sheets. But his father, a rough, uneducated man, although well-to-do was very angry after hearing of what he considered a foolish waste of money. He told the lad that unless he was able to realize five dollars from the immediate sale of the stamps that he should not only receive a sound thrashing, but that his books should be burned. The poor boy was heartbroken, but taking the album to the narrator he sold five dollars worth and went away with a lighter heart, and his album looking not much the worse. The father however carried out his threat with regard to the album, claiming that the boy spent all his evenings "fooling with stamps." Perhaps he did spend too much time, for he was much interested, but his father thought he might be better employed, in spite of the fact that his teachers

said he was very bright in school, that he not only learned his lessons very well, but that he was surprisingly well informed upon all geographical and historical points. The boy at that time spent all his evenings at home. Two years later his evenings were spent in saloons, he had stopped school, he cared nothing for books or study, all his money went for cigarettes. By the time he was seventeen he had degenerated into a common rowdy, and had been arrested twice for disorderly conduct. Perhaps a boy of this sort was more to the father's taste. All this might have happened anyway, but it is doubtful.

The question is WHY will parents be so absurd? Surely the boy or girl is better off occupied, and interested with a clean edifying hobby like Philately, than on the streets or among low companions. Some call Philately a waste of money; a waste of money Philately never is, considered either from an educational or financial point of view. Stamps very seldom decrease in value, generally it is the opposite—an increase. The most educated men and women in the world are champions of Philately, surely if they do not consider stamp collecting a waste of time if they consider it for themselves an education, it will prove just as educating for the youth.

It is a fact that Philately gathers in the best of the world. For the uneducated person it has few attractions. Kings, queens, noblemen, literary characters, doctors, professors, the portion of the world owning culture in the highest degree acknowledge Philately's glorious sway.

A parent cannot do his child greater good than to encourage and foster his love for the "wee bits." If I had three dozen children, I would encourage them in any hobby which would keep them at home enjoying a pastime in every way so safe and instructive.

The Collecting Habit.

By Rev. E. Mitchell.

Occasionally, we hear some unappreciative parents express regret, when their children begin to develop the tendency to collect.

Some will object to the small expense involved, or to the time which may be taken up in the collecting, or to the space occupied in the house by the collection.

Now, as an experienced parent, teacher and pastor, I want to enter my protest against such opposition to collecting. Young minds must become acquainted with the world in which they live, and especially with the works of nature, which are the works of God in nature.

And every child's mind will be better and happier if he can learn the facts of the world in ways which afford delight while learning. It is a secret known to all careful thinkers in child study, that whatever enters into the young mind with delight, makes a strong and enduring impression. This is the great secret of the Kindergarten.

Again, a second great secret, in developing a child's mind, is to remember his great desire to handle the things with which he is so delighted, and to possess them, as his own.

Therefore, when a child is old enough, let him begin to collect something, especially the works of nature, such as shells, minerals, etc. And thus you will fix his mind in the things which delight him, and which arouse in him an active enthusiasm, which will go far towards sustaining his interest in his studies, in later

years, when the more artificial methods of study and teaching must be taken up, in school.

As to expense, a habit of collecting will tend to make a child need fewer toys, because his collection takes the place of toys, to a large extent.

A child educated without any expense, is likely to have a very cheap education, one which dwarfs his mind, rather than develops his many-sided manhood.

As to space taken up by a little collection, almost any house can afford to spare the child a few shelves, or a home-made box, or cabinet. And it will help to train and systematize the child's mind, to feel that he has a place of his own, where he can keep his treasures, and for the good order of which he is responsible.

As to the time occupied in making collections, that can be regulated by the amount of time at the child's disposal. Naturally, his collecting time will come out of his play-time, and so will not be any time lost from study. But, in fact, collecting is one good method of study, better because it pleases and entertains.

A small collection made by children, will often solve the hard problem of what to do with your children on a rainy day. And, even at other times, the time spent with the collection keeps the child out of mischief.

In every way, I believe in the habit of collecting, kept, of course, within reasonable bounds, as to expenditure of time and money. It helps to train the mind in many ways.

I have seen the practical good of collecting, in my own family, and in my own life. And so I would encourage the young folks to collect; and also the older folks, who will find, in collecting, a restful change, and an antidote for "the blues," and a help to him who would "look through nature, up to nature's God."—From Ob-
logist.

Postmarks of New York
By J. W. Wheeler
72 Comstock Ave., Providence, R. I.

NOTE. Corrections or additions welcomed. Cuts are half size. Continued from last month.

VII.

During 1863 and 1864 there were several other varieties in use although they differ slightly from those shown in last issue. Fig. 24 has the double circle. In the illustration this is invert-

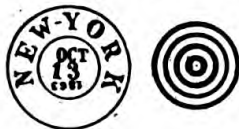


Fig. 24

ed, as it often occurred that way on the letters. The type is also lighter than that shown in Fig. 20 and 21. Fig. 25 shows a variety precisely like



Fig. 25

24 only that the year has been left out. This was not an accident but a regular issue, as many examples have been found and, also, the space below the date is not wide enough to admit the year. The next, Fig. 26, however, has



Fig. 26

a space large enough for the year but the year was not printed. This postmark was used during 1864. All three of these postmarks had other cancellers than the ones shown in the cuts, but the facts about variations in cancellers were given in the last issue.

The next year brought out two postmarks which are quite a departure from the general run. The two octagonal postmarks shown in Figs. 27 and 28 differ in size, spacing of type, orna-



Fig. 27



Fig. 28

ments, as well as in the cancellers. These postmarks were probably used only during this one year as they are exceedingly scarce. Another kind of postmark was used during the same time, which will be described in next issue. These two are the only octagonal postmarks ever used in the New York postoffice, but the design was so common all over the U. S. and foreign countries at the time, and examples of it have been in use to a slight extent even up to the present day.

(Continued in next issue.)

Two very rare Battersea enamel jugs, about 5 in. high, painted with garden scenes and figures and sprays of flowers in colors, realized \$300 each at Christie's sale. Four small circular Battersea enamel trays, painted with playing cards, and four plaques with Watteau figures sold for \$170 and a pair of oblong Battersea enamel tea caddies, painted with river scenes, &c., in colors on white ground, \$350.

Up to date the United States has coined 1,675,247,568 cents. 440,000,000 nickles, 427,531,884 dimes, 300,000,000 quarters, 320,000,000 half dollars and 596,969,692 dollars.

The 100 Numbers Employed to Indicate the Face Values of Postage Stamps.

FROM PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF INDIA.

Perhaps the most noticeable numbers used are the unreduced fraction of the Phillipine Islands 2 4-8, 12 4-8, &c., and the small fractions of Han-over.

The smallest expressed value is 1-30, and the most unusual is the curious decimal, .0625, which is also a Phillipine (it was certainly time the Americans took over these Islands or we might have been treated to recurring decimals or improper fractions).

The highest number employed to denote the value is 2,000 (reis) in the case of Portugal, but this sinks into insignificance when compared with the value indicated on fiscal stamps.

In the following list, which I think is fairly complete, it must be borne in mind that the figures or words expressing amount are recorded and not the actual value indicated; if this latter had been the case, the above Portuguese stamp would not occupy the highest point—as many of our Colonial stamps exceed it in face value—although the figures employed are considerably lower in scale of numbers.

When the value is expressed in two coins such as one shilling and nine pence or one dollar ninety-two cents, the second value is expressed as a fraction of the first.

List of numbers indicating value:

No.	Coinage	No.	Coinage
1-30	Thaler	11	Cents
.0625	?(Phillipines)	12	Cents
1-15	Thaler	12 1-2	Cents
1-10	Thaler	12 4-8	Cents
1-8	Cent	13	Cents
1-4	Penny	13 1-2	Shillings
1-3	Silbergroschen	14	Cents

1-2	Numerous	15	Centimes
3-4	Schilling	16	Cents
1	Numerous	17	Ore
1 12-100	Dollar (U. S. Periodical)	18	Kreuzer
1 1-4	Schilling	19	Cuartos
1 1-3	Schilling	20	Centimes
1 1-2	Cent	22	1-2 Cents
1 3-4	Pounds	24	Cents
	(Victoria).	25	Numerous
1 92-100	Dollars (U. S. Periodicals)	27	Paras
2	Numerous	28	Cents
2 1-4	Rupees	30	Cents
2 1-4 }	Numerous	35	Cents
2 4-8 }	Cents	37	1-2 Centimes
2 5-6 (2-10)	Shillings	38	Cents
	(N. S. W.)	40	Centimes
3	Numerous	45	Centesmi
3 1-8	Cents	48	Cents
	(Phillipines)	50	Numerous
3 1-3 (3-4)	Shillings	54	Paras
	(N. S. W.)	56	Cents
3 1-2	Roubles	60	Cents
4	Numerous	62	Cents
4 1-2	Pence	64	Cents
4 5-6 (4-10)	Shillings	70	Lepta
	(N.S.W.)	72	Cents
5	Numerous	75	Centimes
5 1-3 (5-4)	Shillings	80	Reis
	(N.S.W.)	84	Cents
5 1-2 (5-6)	Shillings (New Republic)	85	Cents
		90	Cents
6	Numerous	96	Cents
6 2-8	Cent	100	Numerous
	(Phillipines)	108	Paras
6 1-2	Pence	115, 120, 130,	
6 2-3	6 annas 8 pies	150, 180, 150,	
7	Kreuzer	240, 260, 280,	
7 1-2	Annas etc.	300	Reis
8	Pence	400	Mils de Escudo
9	Kreuzer	430, 500, 600,	
10	Numerous	700, 900, 1000,	
10 1-2 (10-6)	Shillings	2000	Reis

It is not generally known that mutilated stamps cannot be used. A stamp which is torn in any way is not good for postage, no matter if it has not been used. If the postoffice officials discover that the stamp has been mended, the letter can be held for postoffice.

Counterfeits And Their Detection,

R. R. CHILES.



Counterfeit

Genuine

BAVARIA. The stamp shown above in reproductions of an original and a counterfeit is the Kreuzer green of 1862 (Scott No 13). This stamp is scarce unused, while used it is more common. For this reason it seems rather surprising that the forger cancelled his production, thereby decreasing his profit so enormously. He was probably led to do this by the distrust with which many collectors look upon unused Bavarian stamps of the earlier issues, a distrust inspired by the fear of reprints. Fortunately the matter of reprints was properly ventilated and cleaned up last year. The forger, no doubt, believed that a postmark would give a more trustworthy appearance to his fakes, and he was not far out in this, for it is surprising how many young collectors will accept anything as genuine that shows a post-mark—just as though it were not just as easy to imitate a postmark as a stamp.—In this case the postmark fortunately serves to distinguish the counterfeit. It is a well-known “mill-wheel” cancellation which always bear a number in the center, the number of the postoffice. But the forged postmark has no figures in the center. The illustration above shows only a part of of the cancellation, the rest falling on the letter. It may occur on other imitations, so that one should be on the look out for Bavarian postmarks

of this type without the central number. The early Bavarian delivery tax stamps are much scarcer used than unused, so that postmarks have often been faked on them, while the stamps are quite genuine.

The 12 kr. red of 1858 is printed from the same die as the 12 kr green, so that the distinctions here given may apply to counterfeits of both. The chief distinguishing feature lies in the inscriptions. All of these on the forgery are considerable smaller than on the original; not only are the letters thinner and narrower, but they are also lower, so that there is more room between their top and foot and the white lines bordering the labels. This is especially noticeable in BAYERN and FRANCO, but also in the other words. The R in BAYERN differs somewhat. It's righthand leg is a little longer than the left one, whereas on the original the right leg of the R is, if anything, a trifle shorter than the left leg. The B of the same word is somewhat misshaped; it appears to hang to the right somewhat. The two large figures of value in the center are both too narrow in the counterfeit; this is especially perceptible in the upper right hand part of the figure 2. All the white lines of these two figures appear much thicker on the original than on the counterfeit. The small scrolls or arabesque ornaments in these figures are poorly imitated and show numerous differences but these cannot readily be described in words and I must refer the reader to the cuts above for comparisons between genuine and in that particular. This also refers to the small scrolls in the corners of the central square. In the upper right-

hand corner a good test is found in the small figures 12. On the original the position of these figures is not the same in all the corners. In three of them, the lower two and the upper left hand corners the two dots touch the vertical line at the right, but in the upper right hand corner the foot of the 2 touches the vertical line of the label. All my copies of the 12 kr. red and the 12 kr. green show this plainly; If it does not seem to be due to wear, but rather to incorrect placing of the figure. On the forgery this is not the case. The figure 2 does not touch the vertical line in any one of the four corners.

All the originals of the large figure set of Bavaria show a slight embossing of all the white lines, especially in the central figures; of course on used copies, especially such as has been soaked off, this embossing has sometimes almost disappeared. The forgery here described has never had any embossing; it seems to have been printed from a photographic reproduction considerably touched up for printing. The originals were printed on silk paper (so called Tickinson paper) like the early embossed stamps of Great Britain; the forgery of course has no silk thread. Still one cannot always go on this alone, as the silk thread of the originals sometimes was too much on the surface and has been torn out, though usually showing marks of having been there.

(To be Continued.)

Collectors who have not a stamp album which gives them satisfaction can possibly find something interesting in a suggestion made by a well-known Ohio collector. He says that a stamp index along the line of the card indexes used by business houses is more capable of giving satisfaction

than the ordinary album, and there is but little expence attached to it. He gives the following instructions for making one:

Get a box—an ordinary shoe box will do, but a wooden box about the same size is better because it is stronger. Then have some cards cut by any printer, just the width of the box and about half an inch higher than the box. Have twenty-six cards cut an inch higher than the box. On these high cards take rubber stamps and stamp them alphabetically. Then place the high card marked with "A," at the front end of the box. Then put in the card marked "B," then a few lower cards; then the next letter and so on until you have gotten all the alphabet cards in the box, with about an equal number of blanks between. Then proceed to hinge the stamps on the cards. If the stamp is from Bulgaria, catch hold of the card marked "B" and run through the countries which commence with that letter until you reach Bulgaria. Classify all countries by the first letter. Write at the top of each blank card the name of the country which the stamp is from. Any description or remarks about the stamp can be written on the reverse side of the card. If one card is filled up with the stamps of one country, put in a new card and mark it "Continued," being sure to put it right next to the country to which it belongs.

The war between Japan and Russia has already created an added demand for Japanese stamps. A big Eastern dealer announces that he has an extra call for Japanese stamps, but not for those of Russia. The only significance that this fact has is that Russian stamps have always been in good demand, while latterly the stamps of Japan have been woefully neglected.



DEPARTMENT of INQUIRY

By L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis.

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

175 WHAT STAMPS HAVE BEEN USED OUTSIDE THE COUNTRIES OF THEIR ISSUE?—A complete list of these would be rather long, and I can hardly endeavor to furnish one upon short notice. All I can do at present is to name some and leave it to others or to any other time to complete the list. United States stamps were used in Hawaii as was stated under query 156 (the proof-reader made two blunders there: He spelled Mekeel's wrong and failed to give the volume or year of the paper. It should be No 4 of Mekeels Weekly Stamp News, 1902). This was in 1851.

The United States have postoffices (I think) at Hong Kong and at Shanghai China—since when, I do not know—and there U. S. stamps are used. They were also used during the foreign occupation at Peking in 1900. When Cuba, Porto Rico, Philippine I's. and Guam were occupied by U. S. troops. U. S. Stamps were used almost immediately. Whether they were used at Samoa and when I do not remember and would be very thankful for additional information.

Stamps of Great Britain were used in many British colonies prior to the colonial issues. This was the case in Cyprus 1880 to 1881, in Malta 1857 to 1894, Gibraltar 1859 to 1886. The stamps for Cyprus were overprinted with the country's name, those for Malta were

cancelled by a large "M" in an oval of parallel lines until 1859, when the "M" was replaced by "A.25." The stamps for Gibraltar were cancelled by a similar postmark bearing 1859 a "G" and and after that "A. 26." There stamps of Bermuda also were used, in 1886, surcharged "GIBRALTER."

Then there are the British offices in the Levant which used British stamps since 1885 with the surcharge of value in para and piastres.

I think during the foreign occupation of Peking British stamps were used there too, though I have no account of such use at hand now.

France has its offices at Cavalle, Dedeah, Port Lagos, Vathy, in China, Alexandria and Port Said Egypt, in Morocco and Zanzibar, besides the offices in the Levant (Turkey) since 1885. In all these offices French stamps were used with appropriate surcharges.

From A. Maury's "Descriptif de toutes les Marques Postales" I take the following list of French offices besides those named above. Bale, Switzerland; Cairo, Egypt; Galatz, Moldavia; Goulette, Tunisia; Itralia, Walachia; Shang-Hai, China; Suez, Egypt; Tunis, Tunisia; Yokohama, Japan; Levant offices are: Beyrouth, Constantinople, Dordanelles, Enos, Gallipoli; Ineboli, Jaffa, Kerassounde, Kustendje, Lataqua, Merzaina, Metelin, Ordon, Rhodes, Rodosto, Salonique, Samsoun, Sinope, Smyrna, Sulina, Trebizonde, Tripoli, Tulscha, Varna.

In the French colonies prior to the colonial issues French stamps were used, partly with a surcharge and partly without, the regular French issue being here issued without perforation.

The French army corps have their own postoffices wherever they may move. If in a foreign country, as at Peking in 1900 they will use French stamps and cancel them by special

marks, thus "A A 5" means *Arme'e d'Afrique*. "CEMA" means *Corps expeditionnaire du Mexique* etc.

Germany also has offices in the Levant for which German stamps are surcharged in pisa and piastres. It has foreign offices in China, as, for an instance, in Shanghai, and, before the colonial issues were made, used German stamps at Kamerum and other colonial points.

Italy has stamp surcharged for its Levant offices.

Austria the same and for China.

Japan has surcharged for China and Corea.

For Griqualand stamps of Cape of Good Hope were used with a surcharge of a "G" from 1874 to 1880, for Zanzibar stamps of British India and Br. East Africa from 1895 to 1896, for Zululand stamps of Great Britain 1888 and of Natal 1894, for the Orange River Colony stamps of Cape of Good Hope, for British Bechnanaland stamps of Gr. Britain and stamps of Good Hope 1885 to the present time, for Br. East Africa stamps of Gr. Britain 1890, stamps of India 1895 to 1896, stamps of Zanzibar 1897. The South African Company in 1896 made use of stamps of Good Hope.

Besides these instances I remember just now only the fact that stamps of Hamburg were used in Helgoland until 1867 and that Sardinian stamps were used in some of the other Italian states at the time of their union. If any one of the readers will supply any deficiency in the above lists I shall gladly give you credit for doing so.

It might not be a bad plan for some one to make a special collection of these stamps which were used outside the country of their issue and to write a full and detailed history of them giving the reason, why they were used so and how their use was discontinued. A good deal of world's history might

be interwoven in such an history,

173 FROM WHAT COUNTRY WAS THE FIRST STAMP ISSUED WITH A MAP ON IT?—If I remember right, it was Panama (1887). Canada followed in 1897. Canada followed in 1899. Brazil had a sort of celestial map showing the "southern cross" in 1887 and 1890 to 1893.

175 WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GRILLED AND AN UNGRILLED U. S. STAMP?—All the U. S. stamps issued prior to 1867 and since 1871 are not grilled. The paper in these is practically, the same as it came from the paper factory. In 1867, 1869 and 1870 the "grill", a rectangular embossing of the paper to prevent the cleaning and fraudulent second use of the stamps, was used. Mr. Luff gives the description of the patent for grilling granted to Charles F. Steele of Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1867 under No. 70, 147, and describes the whole process. Grill was applied by a roller after printing and the object was the breaking of the paper tissue that the cancelling ink might penetrate more easily. Some banks use a similar grill on checks and drafts to guard against attractions. Some grills on stamps are almost invisible on account of the pressure applied to them after embossing, when at all visible they appear as minute squares or pyramidal impressions. See Tuff's Postage Stamps of the U. S.; page 97, etc.

176—WHAT IS THE NATURE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA STAMPS SURCHARGED MEDICAL IN ITALICS?—The surcharge is in violet or lilac, placed in different diagonal positions and appears to have been applied by a hand-stamp before postal cancellation. Who knows more?

177—WHO KNOWS ANYTHING ABOUT A POSTAGE STAMP ISSUED AT CAHABA, ALA. in 1847?—All possible information desired!

178—A gentleman from Alabama sends the following: "Some time ago a friend sent me some Victoria stamps one being A. 46. (Scotts No. 193) green half penny. I noticed that the d in the lower left hand corner was inverted and seemed to be an error. My friend reported to me that he had examined his stamps and found a number with this d up side down and that it was an error or mistake" What is it? It can hardly be an error of engraving considering the process of manufacture. Neither can it be considered a private mark of the engraver for the same reason. The only probable explanation is that it is the result of imperfect printing, the head of the d disappearing either by a break or by a dust particle in transfer or plate. A similar cause, working in the opposite direction, may cause a colorless stroke to appear from the round part of the letter downward making a form which appears as an inverted d. I have one specimen in which the head of the d is wanting, but I have none with a downward stroke, nor one with a well defined inverted d. Yet there is a possibility. That an imperfection in a plate was remedied by the insertion of the letter d by hand, in which case it might have occurred that a d-punch was placed up side down and thus a real error of plate retouching produced. Perhaps some reader who may inquire from the manufacturers will find out.

179—HOW CAN A U. S. STAMP BE USED ON MAIL FROM SHANGHAI, CHINA?—Because the United States maintain a U. S. postoffice there, U. S. stamps are used in that office. Other powers

have offices there too and use their own stamps. See query 133 in December number of the WEST.

180—IS THERE IN EXISTENCE A DIRECTORY OF STAMP DEALERS ALL OVER THE WORLD?—Not to my knowledge. Victor Marsh, Brixton Road, London, S. W. has lately issued "The International Directory," where in an attempt is made, besides other valuable contents, to give an international list of dealers in philatelic literature, most of which, no doubt, are dealers in stamps too. Only 40 dealers are thus mentioned in 8 countries. The ad pages of the WEST mention probably more stamp dealers than that in every issue. In Mr. Marsh's work other directories, however, are mentioned. One issued at Birmingham consisting of 3 parts. I. Collectors, II. Dealers, III. Societies. Another is Nun's Directory of the stamp dealers of Great Britain. Other countries very likely have at least partial lists of their stamp dealers, but a general directory comprising all is not extant, I think. By the way it may interest the readers of the WEST to learn more of the contents of Marsh's International Directory. On page 3 to 7 there is an article translated from the German of Victor Suppantisch of Vienna. The most important scientific Journals of the World published to the end of 1900. Of course, philatelic journals are meant. Page 8 to 13 our worthy co editor, Rev. Thiele gives some notes on books in his library; an article most worthy of perusal. Page 14 and 15 we find "A Plea for Philatelic Literature Collecting" by Bibliophilist, page 16 to 19, Dr. Thebussem's Notes on Spanish Periodicals" page 20. "Sale of the Casey Library," page 21. Mount Brown's Catalogue," page 22 to 28. An enumeration of some philatelic Journal of 1901 and 1902, by Dr. Rommel in German. Dr. Rommel enumerates 23

Journals for Germany, 5 for Austria, 6 for German Switzerland, 12 for Belgium, 27 for France, 4 for French Switzerland, 2 for Luxemburg, 1 for Greece, 2 for Denmark and one each for Norway and Sweden. On page 29 and 30 is another list of journals from Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland, taken from the Philatelic World. Then come some shorter articles on page 31. Page 32 and 33 gives some errors in numbering volumes or parts of Philatelic Journals. Pages 34 to 37 contain a list of philatelic literature, pages 40 to 46 a list of current Philatelic Journals in England and colonies, United States, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Luxemburg, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Argentine Rep., Chili, Dominican Rep., Canary Islands and Cuba. On the next two pages we find a list of catalogues published in various parts of the world. Pages 49 to 65 are taken up by advertisements.

181—WHAT ARE "MAKULATURSTNECKE" OCCASIONALLY MENTIONED IN GERMAN PHILATELIC WRITINGS?—They are pieces of waste paper, such as spoiled stamps, cards or envelopes. In our country these are carefully destroyed, but in a few countries some of them got out of the factories and into the hands of dealers. The inverted 4 cents Buffalo stamp is the only instance of a U. S. Makulaturstneck getting into the hands of the public.

In May last the Postmaster General announced that the introduction of considerable improvements would take place beginning January 1. The first one of these is about to be put into practice. Heretofore it was impossible to sell stamps at postoffices. Now arrangements have been made whereby they can be turned in at the stamp window for cash. It is stated that within a short time orders will go forth to redeem stamps at their face value, where they are in perfect condition. This will be a big thing.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL AND OTHERWISE

The government of the little Republic of San Marino has just suffered a heavy loss by having \$45,000 worth of rare postage stamps stolen.

It is estimated by the editor of Ewen's Weekly Stamp news that there are 2,930,000 stamp collectors in the world.

The initials P. W. D. on the stamps of West Australia signify that they were used by the public works department.

The Stanley Gibbons of London, England, has decided not to include the many varieties of the Panama surcharged stamps in the next catalogue.

The picture on the stamps of Austria, the early issues, is that of Francis Joseph, who came to the throne in 1848 and is still the Emperor. When the Magyars of Hungary got the home rule in 1877 the Emperor's portrait was still used on the stamps.

A reader wishes to know why the 25c Republic of Cuba is not listed as well as the 10c green. It is held that of the plates prepared by the American Bank Note Co. on the representations of the revolutionary junta in New York, only that of the 10c green printed stamps that were actually used in one province.

Philatelic Fellowship.

By Wellington Brezee.

Philately though young in years

Commands respect from one and all
And often as the evening nears

We gather in her honored halls.

To discourse on her ways and charms

On some good find which on us falls
Then homeward bound and soon the
arms

Of Morpheus holds till morning calls.

In no walk of life is the feeling of
true fellowship exemplified in so great
a degree as among the ranks of the
fraternity.

When the true philatelist meets his
brother collector an immediate feeling
of good will is established. He has
met a person whose hobby is the one
in which he himself is most interested
and whose chief delight is to enlarge
upon his favorite pastime. Visions at
once arise in his mind of tales to be
told, of wonderful finds and treasures
lost and other exciting details that fall
to the lot of every true philatelist.
And so they fraternize in a brotherly
way each unfolding their varied ex-
periences to the amusement and de-
light of the other.

And all this without the pomp and
regalia of a secret order but as the
natural outcome of a feeling that ex-
ists which makes every philatelist an
object of personal interest and solici-
tation at the hands of his brother phil-
atelist as one who is personally inter-
ested in the hobby which he himself, is
pursuing and whose experience and
advice in all stamp matters is to be
sought after not only for the real ben-
efit to be gained but also for the com-
panionship of one whose thoughts are
in accord with his own and for the
general good feeling and fellowship
that springs up as a result of merging
of interests along lines whose ultimate

object is an ideal collection, the day
dream of the enthusiastic philatelist
and one in which we all participate al-
though one seldom realized.

True fellowship springs from the
heart. The truth of this is evidenced
by the cordial feeling existing among
philatelists as a whole, with nothing
to bind the ties of fellowship but the
the pursuit of a hobby that is dear to
the hearts of all.

Irrespective of this station in life the
"stamp collector" commands respect
and no matter how small or mean his
collection may be, he nearly always
possesses some one thing which the
"other fellow" failed to get and which
has sufficient attraction in itself to
arouse the interest and respects of
philatelists in general.

The present status of philatelic fel-
lowship has been attained by purely
natural methods, no false stimulus
having been used to foster its growth.
But liberality and broadminded charity
coupled with the fact that by advanc-
ing the interests of all we strengthen
the position of the individual, phila-
tely thus attained its present high stan-
dards one of the most beneficial, en-
joyable and mind-diverting pastimes
of the nineteenth century.

That stamp collecting may degener-
ate into a mania of the most danger-
ous kind has been recently shown in
Paris, where the latest sensational
murder was brought about by the as-
sassin's desire to obtain a valuable
collection belonging to a well known
Persian collector by the name of Dele-
haeff.

The popularity of stamp collecting
in India is no isolated instance of the
spread of the stamp collecting germ,
but that in practically every civilized
land on the globe there are stamp col-
lectors, philatelic societies and in
many cases philatelic magazines.

A History Of The Post-office. *✍ ✍ ✍ ✍*

By Verna Weston Honway

(Continued)

In 1663 General E'Neil in a proclamation published on May 25th, warned postmaster against opening any mail not addressed to them, "except by warrant of our principal secretaries."

At this same time the Colonial law of Virginia required each planter, under penalty, to dispatch the letter which might be handed to him to the next plantation, and thus from farm to farm letters made their slow way for hundreds of miles. If a planter failed in his obligation he was fined one hogshead of tobacco.

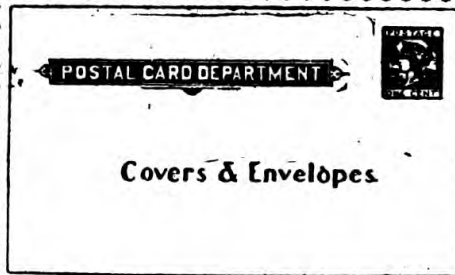
In 1672 New York announced the establishment of "a post to go monthly between New York and Boston." and advising those that be disposed to send letter to bring them to the secretary's office, where in a lock box they will be kept till the messenger calls for them, all persons paying the post before the bag be sealed up. This mail was dispatched twice a month thirty years after. The office of Post-master General for the North American colonies was created in 1692 revolted colonies organized their own postal system in 1775, Benjamin Franklin being the first one chosen for the office.

Mail robberies were so common in those early days that the British Government advised, when sending bank notes through the mail, to cut them in portions and send them in different mails. In 1782, John Palmer, a theater manager, presented a plan by which the robberies would be eliminated. His idea was merely to have specially built mail coaches, guarded with armed guards and with frequent relays of horses, sufficient to maintain a high speed at all times. The postal

authorities, however, derided this scheme until overruled by the prime minister, Pitt. The plan was then put into action, it proving marvelously successful, the robberies ceasing, and the revenues increasing enormously. Pitt made Palmer "Controller of Postal Revenues." The "Conservatives", however, soon made the place too hot for the new incumbent. It was not until nearly twenty-five years after he received a sum of money and a pension as reward for services, the value of which were uncalculable.

Rowland Hill, an Englishman who held no official position, in 1837 made a bold attack against the system as then existing. He advised the outrageous prices as then demanded be done away with, and a penny charged for carrying a letter to any part of England, Scotland and Ireland. When asked how he would collect the money on the enormously increased correspondence, he made this truly epoch marking suggestion: "Perhaps the difficulties might be obviated by using a bit of paper just large enough to bear the government stamp, and covered on the back with a glutinous wash, which by applying a little moisture might be attached to the letter." From this modest suggestion we have our thousands upon thousands of postage stamps, for some of which we collectors are willing, and only too pleased to pay fabulous prices. Should not Rowland Hill be termed the "Father of Philatelia?"

For a time the stupids who held the revenues in the postoffice department were horrified; they managed to stave off the demand off a time, but the people would have it, and as usual got what they wished. The opening of the new system took place on Jan. 10th 1840. One by one the other nations followed suit, until now we have the the necessity of civilization, rapid



Observations on Some Original Covers

By R. R. THIELE.

(Continued)

Mr. Cruse, the well known Canadian collector, has kindly sent me an envelope of considerable interest by reason of its wanderings. It was sent by Mr. Cruse to a collector at Birmingham, Alabama; the postage was prepaid by two 2c King Edward stamps and one 7c of the same issue of Canada, it being a registered letter. The dates of its departure is shown by datestamp

WALKERVILLE

DE 14

03

ONT.

in a singlelined circle, the date being in the center. This postmark is on both face and back, three lines in all. The next postmark reads

WINDSOR

DE 14

03

ONT.

in a similar singlelined circle. Windsor of course, is the exchange office for the United States at the west end of Ontario; the letter was here sent across the river to Detroit as shown by the next postmark:

DETROIT, MICH.

DEC

14

1903

REGISTERED

in two concentric circles, the date being within the inner circle. From

here the letter went its way with the usual dispatch and safely arrived at Birmingham two days later as shown by the postmark

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

DEC.

16

1903

RECEIVED

between two concentric circles, the date being in the inner circle. At Detroit, by the way, the ominous words had been struck on the face of the letter—words with which most collectors having much foreign intercourse become familiar.

Supposed Liable To Customs Duties.

But Uncle Sam got no chance to enrich himself at the expence of the addressee; for some reason or other he could not be found, as shown by the handstamp.

SECOND NOTICE

DEC. 20, 1903

Evidently the letter had been advertised in the unclaimed list. I do not know why no date is given for the first notice or whether this was really the FIRST notice. At all events the effort was repeated as witnessed by another handstamp

SECOND NOTICE

JAN. 8, 1904.

Perhaps this was properly the second notice; there is evidently an error somewhere.—But the addressee was not forthcoming and, as registered letters, where the sender is plainly indicated, are returned direct without going through the dead letter office, the letter was handstamped

Unclaimed

and again more implicitly

RETURNED TO WRITER

The date on which it left Birming-

ham homeward bound is not shown by any date stamp; the next one shows its route is that of Detroit, Mich, like the one already mentioned, but dated Jan 20, 1904. Here the letter was again sent across the river into the dominions of Edward the Seventh; at Windsor it was datestamped Jan. 20. Finally it reached Walkerville on Jan. 21, as shown by its datestamp on the back, and Mr. Cruse received it back with rejoicing, no doubt, though perhaps mixed with regret at being out eleven cents. Still it is admirable how machine-like the Postoffice Departments of all civilized countries now work together to return a letter to its sender, when one considers the smallness of the charge made for the work and the dozens of hands through which a letter has to pass.

Mr. Cruse submits another envelope which shows that postal officials all are but fallible mortals. The letter was mailed at Melbourne Victoria (Australia) to a certain Mr. Smith at Ararat, Victoria. The first T is written rather addly so as to somewhat resemble a capital T which no doubt caused the error which was made. Somebody misread the name of the postoffice and calmly applied to the letter the handstamp

POST TOWN
NOT
KNOWN IN VICTORIA

at the same time this official genius added the ingenious emendation

TRY TATURA

What similarity there is between Ararat and Totura a non-official mind fails to discover. The letter went to Tatura, as shown by its datestamp on the back but of course did not find the addressee here. It then went back to Melbourne as shown by a change in the address; here again, it seems, another genius puts on

TAHURA

as the next guess. But as no such postmark is shown the letter does not seem to have gone there; in the meanwhile somebody had deciphered the real destination and the letter reached Ararat as shown by its datestamp on the back. And yet the first official had been sure there was no such post-office!

(To be Continued)

Mr. Scott's Idea.

Metropolitan Philatelist.

Metropolitan advocates the dropping of all minor varieties, watermarks, papers, perforations and doing everything possible to cheapen the price of stamps, thus making philately popular with all classes. The few rich will always be with us, these can specialize and bloat to their heart's content, they do great good in certain lines, but the future of stamp collecting depends on the continued interest of a large number of persons in moderate circumstances scattered over the entire world. Increase the number of collectors, lower the price of stamps and cut out all microscopical varieties.

The salt tax stamps of Egypt are nothing but revenue stamps. Until three years ago the government sold it. When the purchaser applied at the postoffice for salt he received a blank with cancelled stamp, which represented the value of the salt which the government was to deliver on presentation of the blank. The system was discontinued in 1900 and the remainders destroyed.

Writing in the New York Sun a "close observer" says: "I notice in the back ground of the new 2c stamps, now in use, that the stripes on the shield are in the wrong order. The shield has two white bars on the outside, which is a mistake.

Washington Notes.

By *A. R. Butler.*

Those readers of the WEST who desire to see a full report of the investigation of the Postoffice Department made by Assistant Postmaster General Bristow may do so by securing from their congressman copies of House Document 383 and House Report 1395, 58th Congress, 2 session, which contain practically all the results.

Congress will probably adjourn about the middle of May, and from present prospects it is not likely that the bills providing for parcels posts, postage stamp certificates or one cent postage will be reported by the Committee on Postoffices and Postroads. The delay in action on the last named can be ascribed to the deficits in the postal revenues caused by the extension of rural free delivery; on the first mentioned to the general feeling against "paternalism" and possibly to opposition from private express companies; but it is difficult to see why the postage stamp certificate, recommended by the Department and favored throughout the country, should not be speedily placed in use.

The passing of the act making an appropriation for the Lewis & Clark Exposition will bring up the question of a stamp series. The Pacific Northwest feels that this affair commemorates an event in American History second only to the Louisiana purchase and that what is good for the one will be proper for the other. The question of an advertising postmark for Portland similar to the St. Louis design has been brought to the attention of the Department.

An interesting publication by the

Smithsonian Institution is "Shell ornaments from Kentucky and Mexico, by W. H. Holmes."

The question of postmarks has come before the Department here as a feature in a murder trial. A person was accused of having killed another through the poison-by-mail route. The package purported to have been mailed at an office using a straight line cancelling stamp, but the actual cancellation had a flag design instead. The investigation which this discrepancy caused proved that the death was a case of suicide with an attempt to throw suspicion on the prisoner through motives of jealousy.

In order to permit of the holding of a convention of third and fourth class postmasters at St Louis on May 18 all such officers have been granted a ten days leave of absence by the Department.

The rural carrier receives some attention from congress this session. His pay is set at \$720, but on the other hand he is forbidden to solicit business or receive orders of any kind for any person, firm or corporation, nor to carry merchandise for hire during his hours of employment, which will cut off a good deal on some routes.

Those who are trying to collect rural free delivery postmarks have a job cut out. On many routes there is no R. F. D. mark, the regular stamp of the receiving office being used, and this is getting to be the general practice: the three line stamps first used will gradually become disused. The latest design is a circle similar to the regular postal cancellation, with R. F. D. inside the circle at the bottom. Routes are sometimes established, then dropped on account of failure to supply the minimum requirement of 3000 pieces of mail per month.

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia.

***Information Relating to Coins
and Medals.***

All correspondence with the Mint should be addressed "Superintendent of the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia." Articles which are expected to be returned by mail must be accompanied by eight cents for return registry fee.

The Mint does not buy old coins or paper money, except some rare Colonial coins in fine condition which are desired for the Mint Cabinet. Mutilated or uncurrent United States gold and silver coin is purchased as bullion the gold at the rate of \$18.60 per ounce troy, and the silver—in amounts of not less than \$3.00—at the rate of cents per ounce troy.

The Mint has no pattern pieces for sale.

The government pays no premium for the return of any of its coins or paper money.

New coins cannot be struck until authorized by Act of Congress.

The Mint supplies United States coins only, and not of any past date.

The fifty-dollar gold piece and the half dollar and quarter-dollar pieces in gold [?] were struck by private parties and not by the United States Government.

The coinage of the following ceased in the years named: Half and one cent copper, in 1857; one cent nickel, in 1864; half dime and three cents silver, and two cents bronze, 1873; twenty cents silver, 1878; trade dollar, 1883; one dollar and three dollars gold, and three cents nickel, 1889. The Columbian half dollar was coined in 1892 and 1893, and the Isabella quarter in 1893. The Lafayette dollar was struck in 1899, the date on the coin, 1900, being

that of the unveiling of the memorial.

MINT MARKS.—Coins struck at the Philadelphia Mint have no mint mark, those struck at all other mints of the United States are distinguished by a small letter on the reverse near the bottom. These letters are "C" for Charlotteville, N. C., discontinued in 1861; "CC" for Carson City, Nev., discontinued in 1893; "D" for Dahlonega, Ga., discontinued in 1861; "O" for New Orleans La.; and "S" for San Francisco, Cal.

The coin dealers are the proper persons to apply to for the value of old coins. It is very unsatisfactory and usually impossible to give the value of an old coin without seeing it, as so much depends upon the variety and condition of preservation of the coin.

The mint does not publish and cannot supply any book or list giving the prices of old coins.

The coins of the United States now authorized by law are:

GOLD: Double Eagle, Eagle, Half Eagle, Quarter Eagle.

SILVER: Dollar, Half Dollar, Quarter Dollar, Dime.

MINOR: Five cents, nickel, One cent, bronze.

The five-cent and one-cent pieces are known as "minor" coins.

A "proof coin" is one struck by hand on a hydraulic press from a specially polished die, using a polished blank. They are made at the Philadelphia Mint only.

The price of the set of gold proof coins is \$38.50; the proof set of silver and minor coins, \$2.50; the proof set of minor coins 8 cents. Single gold pieces, in proof, may be had for 25 cents each above their face value, but the other sets will not be separated.

Proof coins of the present year can be had from about January 15 to December 31, unless, as it is sometimes the case, the stock is exhausted a day

The Stamps of Roumania

Although translation from the French of Count d'Assche in *Le Philatliste Francias*.

B Y R. R. G H I E L E.

(Continued)

ISSUE OF 1892.

Stamps identical with those of February 1891, but printed white semi-transparent paper, almost pelure; arrangement of sheets and perforations as before.

A PERFORATED 11½.

- 1½ bani carmine.
- 3 " lilac, violet
- 5 bani emerald green.
- 10 " brick red
- 15 " bistre
- 25 " blue
- 50 " orange

B. PERFORATED 13½

- 1½ bani carmine, light to dark
- 3 " lilac violet
- 5 " emerald green
- 10 " brick red, light to dark
- 15 " bistre
- 25 " blue, pale to dark
- 50 " orange, pale to bright

C. PERFORATED 11½ x 13½

- 1½ bani carmine
- 3 " lilac
- 5 " emerald green
- 10 " brick red
- 15 " bistre
- 25 " blue, light to dark
- 50 " orange, pale to bright

ISSUE OF NOVEMBER 1893.

**SCOTT
TYPE
A 23**

New type; effigy in profile to left of King Charles I on a horizontally lined ground in an oval; inscription **ROMANIA** in large capitals on a scroll at top, below a shaded scroll bears the inscription of value in letters. At each side of the oval an ear of grain. The stamps are rectangular, larger than before; they

were printed in two colors at the Government Office at Bucarest, on medium white paper bearing the letters P. R. watermarked signifying **PASTA ROMANA**. The perforation is 13½ clean or rough.

1 leu pale bistre, center rose.

2 lei orange, center brown.

These stamps are found printed in all kinds of colors; these are possibly essays, but more probably speculative products.

ISSUE OF MAY 1894.

Design identical with the issues of 1889 and 1893, but the stamps are printed on the paper of the last issue watermarked P. R. As the stamps are smaller the two letters P. R. are seldom complete and sometimes the water mark is inverted. The paper is of medium thickness. There are three perforations—13½, 11½ x 13½ and 13½ x 11½.

A. PERFORATED 13½.

- 3 bani violet
- 5 " green
- 25 " ultramarine
- 50 " yellow orange

B. PERFORATED 11½ x 13½

- 3 bani violet
- 5 " green
- 25 " ultramarine
- 50 " orange yellow

C. PERFORATED 13½ x 11½

- 3 bani violet
- 5 " green
- 25 " ultramarine
- 50 " orange yellow

ISSUE OF JULY 1894

**SCOTT
TYPE
A. 17 etc.**

Effigy in profile to left of King Charles I on horizontally lined ground; various frames; at top the word **ROMANIA** in capitals, below the value in words and figures. The stamps were printed at the Government Office at Bucarest, on paper watermarked P. R. This watermark

is found inverted and sometimes reads back; it exists in two size 1) 11 mm. high 2) 14 mm. high. There are four perforations— $13\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{8} \times 13\frac{1}{8}$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

I. WATERMARK 11 mm. HIGH

A. PERFORATED $13\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 banu brown, pale and dark
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani black
- 3 " brown and red brown
- 5 " blue and ultramarinae
- 10 " emerald green
- 15 " rose, carmine rose, carmine
- 25 " violet
- 50 " orange, orange yellow

Error in the sheet of the 5 bani.

25 bani blue.

B. PERFORATED $11\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 banu pale brown, brown
- 3 bani red-brown, dark and pale
- 5 " blue, indigo
- 10 " emerald green
- 15 " rose
- 25 " violet
- 50 " orange

C. PERFORATED $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 banu brown, pale brown
- 3 bani chocolate, red-brown, dark and pale
- 5 " blue, indigo
- 10 " green
- 15 " rose
- 25 " violet

D. PERFORATED $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 banu brown
- 5 bani blue
- 15 " rose
- 25 " violet

II. WATERMARK 14 mm. HIGH

A. PERFORATED $13\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 banu pale brown
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ bani black
- 3 " brown, red-brown
- 5 " blue
- 10 " emerald green
- 15 " rose, carmine-rose

- 25 " violet
- 50 " orange and orange-yellow

B. PERFORATED $11\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 banu brown, pale brown
- 3 " red-brown ;
- 5 " blue
- 10 " green
- 15 " rose, carmine
- 25 " violet

C. PERFORATED $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 bani brown
- 3 " brown, chocolate
- 5 " blue
- 10 " emerald green
- 15 " rose

D. PERFORATED $14\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$

- 1 banu brown
- 5 bani blue
- 15 " rose
- 25 " violet

Error: 25 bani blue.

This stamp should only be bought except when hanging to a 5 bani.

One may also make distinctions in paper and make three well-distinguished sets on thin, medium and thick; these papers also differ in texture.

ISSUE OF 1899

Same types and paper as before; watermark P. R. The 20 bani announced in the decree fixing the changes of color did not appear; no doubt it was to be violet. There are two perforations $11\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

A. PERFORATED $11\frac{1}{2}$

- 5 bani emerald green
- 10 " carmine rose
- 15 " black
- 25 " dark blue

B. PERFORATED $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$

- 5 bani emerald green
- 10 " carmine rose
- 15 " black
- 27 " blue
- 40 " dark green

(To be Continued)

One Woman's Idea

On Collecting

By Carrie B. Freeborough

Many people, on learning that I collect, not only stamps, but many other things, such as postals, envelopes post marks, Indian relics and geological specimens, are much surprised.

One person was blunt enough to say that she for her part "couldn't see why a woman with a family to look after and much housework to do wanted to waste valuable time over such useless trash."

When I was a young girl my grandfather sent to the P. O. one day a letter to mail. Having no other stamp he used one which had come some before from Washington for a reply to some questions. On reaching the small country P. O. the bearer of the letter was told "that stamp ain't no good, you'll have to get a green one;" and I acquired a 3c yellow agriculture and a knowledge that there actually was a difference in stamps.

I do not remember that I paid much attention to the matter after that until after my school days were over and I was settled in a home of my own.

That first summer I had much leisure and some of it was occupied in admiring the stamps of a young boy friend and incidentally looking about to see what kind I could get together for myself.

My first catalogue was a small price list of some firm whose ad I saw in a magazine and my first album was a tablet of blank paper.

The stamps I gathered then would scarcely please the fastidious present day collector and I have since learned much that was as Greek to me then.

As the years have passed and cares have multiplied I have never felt the time wasted that has been devoted to

my various collections.

For weeks at a time I have scant opportunity to even look at a stamp but when I do I can forget the ironing, and bread to bake and all the other worries long enough to rest my tired feet and worried brain so when I do "take up the burden of life again" I am better able to get through quickly with the day's tasks.

And what is more healthful and pleasing than a ramble with one's husband and children up hill and down dale in a search of arrow points and among the old coal banks for geographical specimens?

Or if some questions arises concerning geography isn't it pleasant to be able to say with certainty whether a colony belongs to France or England or perhaps to Germany or some other power and when some one demurs say with conviction "I know because I have some of the stamps."

And if you pick up a paper and see an account of a war or uprising in some (to the layman) unheard of place, a picture arises, in your mind's eye, of a small map in a stamp album and at least a few of the stamps of the afore-said unheard of place reposing on a page of that same album.

Perhaps I have not yet made it clear, to the person without a hobby, where the profit but I see and earnestly say get a hobby; and long live collecting and collectors.

By mistake some of the United States stamps gummed with the summer formula have been sent out to post masters. In the winter stamps so gummed curl up and crack. Postmasters who received any of the stamps so gummed have been requested to lay them aside until the summer months come.

Our Illustrations

N. Wells Longshore has just lost his entire stamp, coin, curio and postal card collection on April 10, by fire; he only saved his wife and four children. He is beginning a collection all over; is 38 years old and lived in New Orleans since 1876. He has been a member of the Elk's 1st Sargent Continental Guard, and a member of many other clubs and societies. He was married 10 years ago to a daughter of Ulysses B Hayes of Sweet Home Sugar plantation. He wishes to exchange stamps, coins, post cards, etc.

H. C. Beardsley has just issued a fine directory of dealers and publishers. This cut was used in WEST in 1896.

Dr. W. O Emery has been collecting Indian relics for about thirty years and Roman antiquities about fifteen years. His cabinet contains over 6,000 Indian relics, Roman coins and other antiques in clay, glass and metal. Has taught chemistry at the University of Bonn, Germany and at Wabash college since 1887.

We use one of his cuts of some of his Indian relics.



NEBRASKA
PHILATELIC
SOCIETY. 222

Nebraska's
Pride.

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy-Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc. Manager,
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245 S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262.
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg;
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

REPORT OF SALES SUPT.

In circ. 1 Mch.	48 books val	\$1059.84
Rec'd in "	27 " "	230.80
	75 " "	1279.64
Retired in Mch	39 " "	480.23
In circ Apr 1.	35 " "	819.41

Cash received for retired book \$169.-67. Our dept. does not exchange stamps, however, it buys and sells stamps. Write us.

H Wendt, Dunlap, Iowa.

Sales Department will run all summer.

Largest Stamp Society in America

STAMP COLLECTOR'S Protective Assoc'n OF AMERICA

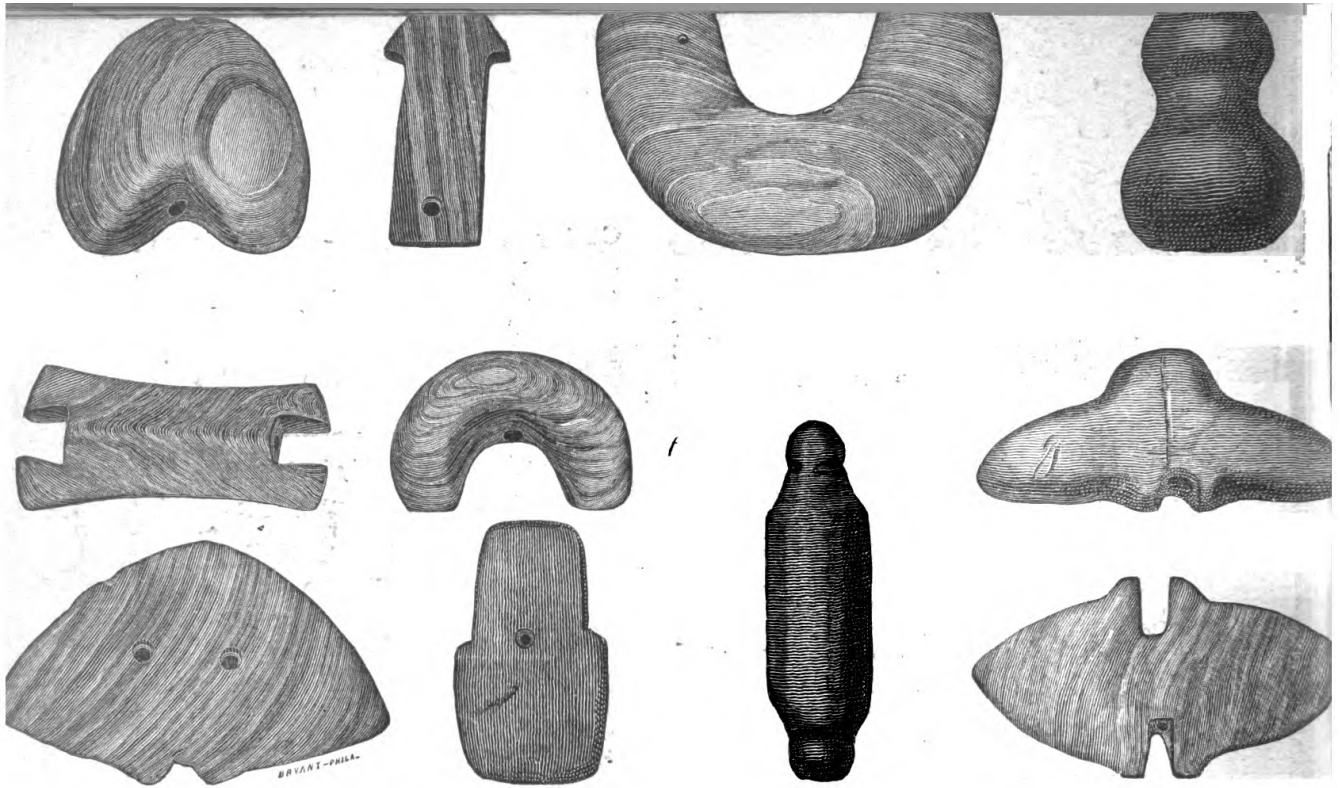
ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandlee, Roanoke Va.
Vice-President—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Ill.
Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt. and Auc. Mgr.—W. P. Kelley, Sales Supt., 3222 Peery, Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn.
Trustees—Wilkinson, Estes, Hopson, Omaha
Official Organ—The WEST.

Any stamp collector of good recommendation may become a member by applying to secretary. Benefits: Mutual co-operation for the protection of honest collectors; for the furtherance of philately in general; annihilation of fraud and schemers by exposing them; collecting, investigating and assisting members in any way. Become a member and help us. With every complaint send 4c for purpose of investigation or adjusting your claim if possible to do so. A great many will pay rather than be published.

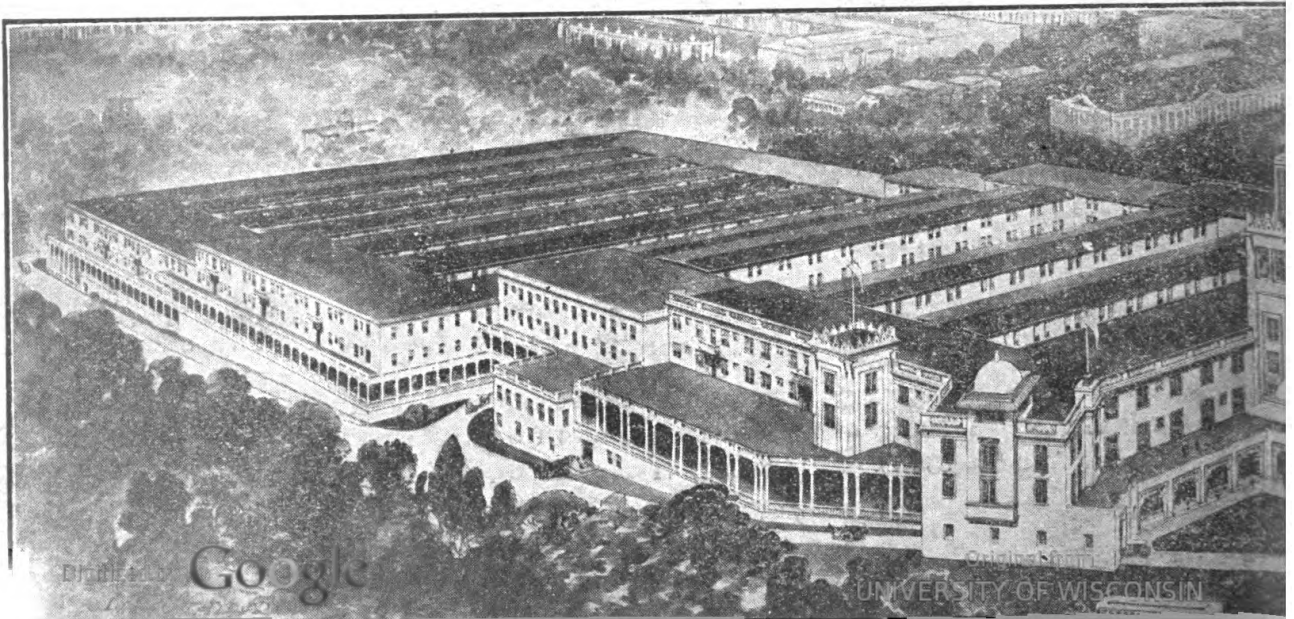
New Members

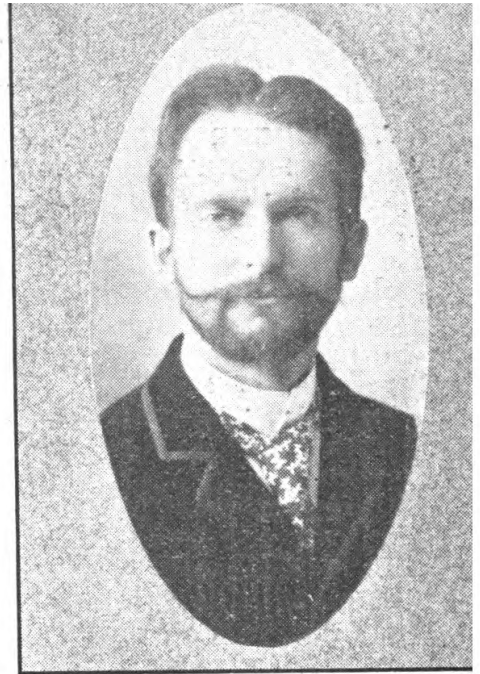
J Alee, Milwaukee, 1730 Meineck ave
Hermose Stamp Ex, Chicago, 1205 N 41 Court
F Delige, Cincinnati 1614, Waverly
C N Daly, U S Consul, Guelph, Can.
F Shellenberger, N Y City, 354 W 40 40st
J N Carvello, Norristown, Pa, Bx. 127
F Christie, Kansas City, Mo, 2308 Lydia
T Hammel, Roberval, Quebec Canada
J Dincan, Williamstown, Vic Australia.
R. J Beck, St. Paul Minn, 408 W Central av.
W C Wright, Kingston, Jamaica.
R J Beck, Alleghney City, Pa
Tasco Stamp Co, Schreveport, La
C Sleinkel, Pittsburg, care Myers & Slenikel Co.
Pickard of Ohio and Slusser of Washington complain of Anna Norman, Gothenburg, Nebr., any others on this party. We have big list expect to give notice in next no. if nothing heard from them.



St
So

In
of
ic
In





Dr. W. O. Emery, Crawfordsville,



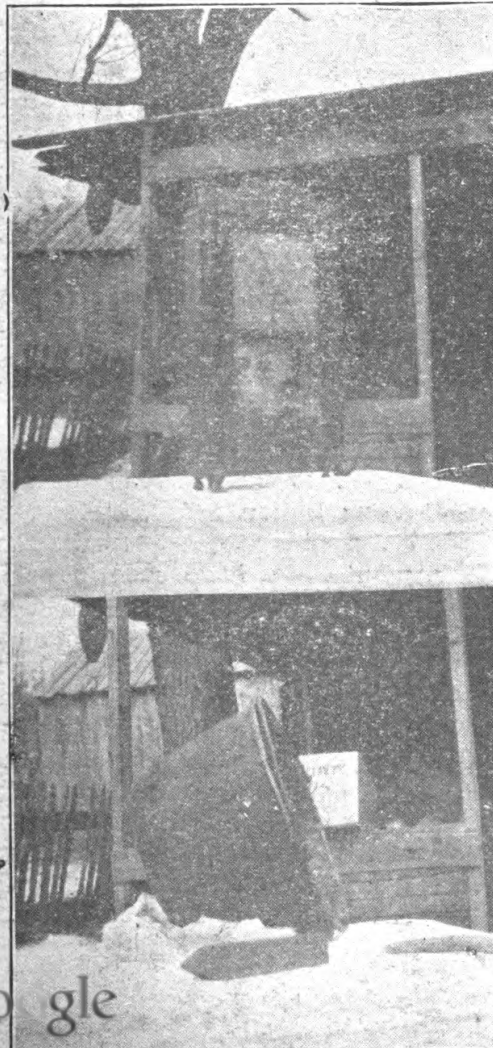
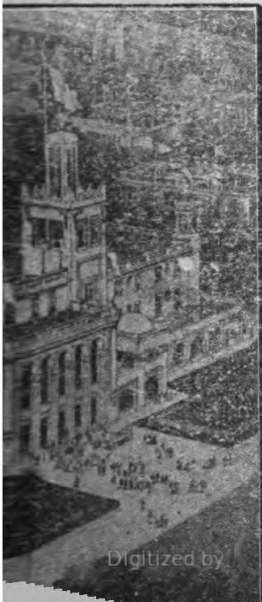
Mrs. Mary King, Oak Mills, Kar



and Money Puzzle
of Dr. Emery's Relics



St. Louis Coins
Home—Souv. Card
Rile, Santa Mon-
ifornia
nn, St. Louis



A PIONEER WOMAN AND HER FAMILY HEIRLOOMS.

By George J. Remsburg.

A few years ago Hon. Wm. Elsey Connelley, a well known western historian, read before the Kansas Historical society a timely paper on "The Value of Local History and the Importance of Preserving It," in which he said: "The personal recollections of individuals are of the first consequence to the history of a country. They are not to be confounded with history; they are the materials from which history is written—the foundation of history, or one of the foundations. You can never tell what fact is going to become vital in the writing of history, and for that reason all facts should be preserved."

The resources of Kansas history would be unlimited if the state had many such individuals as Mrs. Mary King of Oak Mills whose pleasant features adorn this issue of *The West*. Besides being one of the very earliest settlers of Kansas and possessing a valuable store of reminiscence, coupled with intelligence and an accurate memory, she takes an interest in the preservation of what she has seen and heard, a spirit in which so many of our early settlers are lacking. I have often thought that if the old settlers would take a more active interest in banding themselves together in local historical societies, what a vast amount of material could be preserved for the benefit of history. Old Settlers' associations are too few and too many of our "old timers" are passing away without leaving to posterity a record of their experiences and observations.

Mrs. King and her reminiscent husband virtually compose a historical society in themselves and in the sacred archives of their cheerful and hospitable home, and in the storehouse of their memories, are preserved many interesting facts of local history. Mrs. King is the curator of a veritable private museum of "antiques"—one of the most interesting collections of family heirlooms in Northeastern Kansas. Among the quaint objects

which she has preserved is an Eli Terry clock made in Plymouth, Conn., in 1792, being one of the first wooden-wheel clocks ever manufactured; a dictionary at least a century and a half old; a copper kettle 112 years old in which she still makes apple-butter that would tickle the palate of a prince; a tailor's goose more than 100 years old; old fashioned candlestick and snuffer; a terrestrial globe made by Josiah Loring in Boston in 1838; the first city directory of the historic old town of Pittsburgh, Pa., printed in 1815, just before the town was chartered; a copy of the *Boston Daily Mail*—extra, September 1, 1841, containing the announcement by the U. S. Photographic Institute of the introduction in this country of M. Daguerre's famous invention in photography, the so-called Daguerrotype; a curious stove-kettle used in the old Kickapoo Indian mission house on the Missouri river, in Leavenworth county, Kansas, at an early day; a teachers' certificate issued to Mrs. King's great grandfather, Philip Creal of Virginia, June 24, 1785, and other things too numerous to mention. Alexander Campbell, the founder of the Campbellite, or what is now known as the Christian church, used to preach in a barn belonging to Mrs. King's grandfather, Wm. Creal, in Brook county, W. Va., and she has many interesting relics and reminiscences of that period.

The farm on which Mr. and Mrs. King are now living is the site of an old Indian village, and what is believed to be a battle ground. Numerous Indian relics, bullets, pieces of old flint lock guns, tomahawks, arrow-points, etc., have been found in a field near their residence, and are now in the writer's large, private collection. In plowing this field many human skeletons have been unearthed. These intelligent and observing pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. King, and their son, Richard, have very materially assisted the writer in a careful exploration of that locality, and have been factors in adding an interesting leaf to Kansas history and archæology.



CURIO DEPARTMENT

By ROY FAIRRELL GREENE, A S of C C

Attached to a skeleton of some human being, evidently an Indian, that was found not long ago in the Wichita mountains, a range that stretches across Southwestern Oklahoma, was a strangely designed medal. On one side of this medal, which is between four and five inches in diameter, is a raised figure representing two hands clasped; on one cuff is the American eagle; on the other are three bars extending lengthwise of the cuff. Above the hands are a pipe and tomahawk crossed, and on this side are the words "Peace and Friendship." On the other side of this medal is a bust of President Jefferson, with the inscription: "Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, A. D. 1801." A silver ring is fastened to a post on top of the medal. This much relating to the find furnished by a correspondent of one of the Kansas City papers, and what he tells is certainly interesting, but when he says, as he does, that the medal is carved, we feel like asking some further questions. How carved? Does he mean to say the designs are engraved by hand? From the size of the medal one would judge that it was likely never minted, but how "carved?" And another important detail seems to be missing. He says the post is of silver, evidently the medal is not of the same material, but we'd like a little further information. Is there any of the WEST'S readers

who live down in the Oklahoma country that can tell me about the find?

CLEFMANIA is a comparatively modern form of the collecting craze. It consists of an irresistible ambition to gather together keys of all sorts, sizes and shapes. One victim to the habit, a woman, confessed recently to having traveled over 100,000 miles in pursuit of her hobby, during which time she had expended, entirely on keys, quite a respectable fortune. Her collection comprises the key of Nuremberg iron Virgin; one said to have belonged to Cleopatra's jewel case; a huge iron specimen from the tower of London; the one used to lock Anne Hathaway's cottage at Stratford-on-Avon; and many others equally curious and interesting. Of course one's devoting his or her whole time and fortune to nothing more than a collection of keys seems a folly, but if old China, and antique furniture, and rare prints, and paintings, and old books, why not keys?

What is said to be the pipe smoked by Sir Walter Raleigh, which was, of course the first ever smoked in England,—the famous courtier of Queen Elizabeth having introduced the "fragment weed" into England, is now the property of the Prince of Wales, who sees to its being guarded very carefully. At the shipping exhibition held

some months ago in Whitechapel, London, the pipe was placed where the public might get a glimpse of it and it is said a vast crowd stood around the glass case in which it reposed during the whole exhibition. It was the first time the old relic had ever been exhibited, and it may be the last as the royal owner is very careful of it. The pipe itself is a rather unsightly looking thing, quite rustic of fashion made of a forked-stick having several natural branches that were worked up rather neatly with bowl and stern. It doesn't have an elegant appearance, but any collector would be proud to number it among his specimens.

Richard O'Flynn, an old book-seller of Worcester, Mass., has a rather nice collection of prehistoric relics which will likely be purchased under terms of an offer made by Mr. Flynn by the Worcester society of antiquity of which Senator Hoar is one of the vice presidents. Mr. Flynn desires that the collection be kept intact, and is willing that the museum of his home town should have it at a figure much below its real value. The collection numbers only about 8,000 specimens, but some of these are said to be very choice. They are mounted with a precision and a nicety that is pleasing to the most fastidious collector, and the collection as a whole represents the work of 20 years. Each specimen has been taken separately, measured or weighed, carefully indexed or catalogued, and at last mounted. All this was done with the corporation of a negro preacher way down in Southern Georgia. The preacher on his walks kept a sharp lookout for these flint and stone relics, brought home the arrow-heads, axes and pestles, and saved for his Northern friend. The Southern Georgia district is one of the rich-

est in the United States for the archaeologist and almost every known variety of implement is represented by the colored preacher's "finds." It is likely the big museum on Maine street Worcester, the exterior of which looks like nothing so much as an old church building, will house the collection made by Mr. O'Flynn, and his negro friend of the South, for many years, and prove a source of delight to such collectors as have the good fortune to get a glimpse of it.

According to press dispatches, some weeks ago, the Benedict Arnold mansion one of the oldest landmarks in New Haven, Conn., has been torn down by a wholesale lumber concern which owned the ground upon which the old house stood and raised in order to give more yardage room. Relic hunters are reported to have carried away many specimens, such as pieces of oak timber, hand-wrought nails, and whatever could most easily be secured. The more valuable pieces, such as the ancient masterpiece, the door and panelings were sold to collectors of antiques, while the front door of the old building and an old transom were presented to the New Haven Colony Historical society. The old house, according to the newspaper correspondents, was built by Arnold in 1771, and he lived there until 1775 when he left for the front at the head of a militia company. After Arnold's treachery the house was confiscated by the government and later sold to John Prout Sloan. Noah Webster, the lexicographer, bought the old mansion in 1798 and lived there until 1807. He began his dictionary in the southwest room on the first floor.

Messrs. Sotheby, at one of their London auction sales of rare old books

recently sold a copy of "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers," with a receipt for £125 signed by Lord Byron for £5, 15 shillings.

A chair made from the wood of a tree planted by Shakespeare was offered for sale some weeks ago at an auction conducted by Messrs. Foster, in London. The highest bid was \$120,000. This being unsatisfactory the chair was withdrawn.

At an auction held in New York City on November 17, last, a walking cane, formerly the property of Abraham Lincoln was sold for \$145 to H. H. Wilbirt of that city. The cane is a black stick with a bone handle. On the handle are silver trimmings and the martyred presiden's name spelled out in silver letters.

Mrs. Frances B. Horton, whose home is on Brook street, Brattleboro, Vt., has a most valuable and interesting collection of ferns, representing all the different varieties found in Southern Vermont, and a few that are exceedingly rare and never found in that section of New England. The ferns are attractively arranged on the terraces near the Horton home, many growing from chinks in the terrace wall, and as they represent between 1,000 and 1,500 different plants and no less than eighty species and varieties they form a beautiful collection of plant life. Among the number is a hardy fern, which was discovered by Mrs. Horton in Brattleboro three years ago and sent to Harvard college, where it was given the name of *asplenium ebeneum* var *hortonae*. This discovery added a new variety, not only to Vermont's list but to the flora of the United States. One might go on for on hour naming the splendid varieties

of growing ferns possessed by Mrs. Horton, each of them having long Latin names, but words will hardly do justice to the subject. Growing on the same terraces are between thirty and forty kinds of mosses, while all the violets in Southern Vermont, including the bird-foot of New Hampshire origin, are cultivated in this beautiful fernery, beside large beds of digerent kings of orchids, including all the cyripediums, or lady slippers. Mrs. Horton also has a herbian with 100 kinds of pressed ferns and an equal number of pressed specimens and lichens, all scientifically labeled and classsfied. These together with fifty different butterflies, moths and dragon flies make up a collection which has required three years to perfect.

An egg 12 inches long and 10 inches in diameter with a shell nearly one-quarter of an inch thick will be exhibited among the treasures of natural history by the government at the world's fair, St. Louis. It is an egg of the apyornis and was recently purchased in Paris by Dr. E. W. True of the Smithsonian institution. Specimens of these eggs are very rare, having sold in London as high as \$1,000.

Compared with other eggs some idea of its immensity may be had. It will hold the contents of six ostrich eggs, or 148 hen's eggs, or 30,000 humming bird's eggs. Little is known of the birds from which these eggs come. Most of the eggs are found in the sands and swamps of southern parts of Madagascar. One specimen was found afloat on the ocean, after a hurricane, bobbing serenly up and down with the waves.

TRY A CUT IN YOUR AD. A good illustration is not only an eye-catcher, but a good argument as well. In all ads. Try it.

Some Relics of Ancient Sowams.

By Virginia Baker

Sowams, the capital of the Pokanoket country and the principal residence of Massasoit sachem of the Wampanoage, famous for his lifelong friendship for the Plymouth settlement there, occupied the site of what is now the town of Warren, Rhode Island. From time to time during the past 250 years, Indian relics have been disinterred from the soil in various sections of Warren, and it is highly probable that many still lie buried far below the surface.

Arrow heads, though only occasionally found, nowadays, were very plentiful in about the site of Sowams less than a century ago. During the Revolutionary war Lafayette was stationed at Warren for a short period and tradition states, probably correctly, that his soldiers utilized arrow heads in using their flint lock guns. The writer, after diligent search of the fields occupied as a camping ground by the marquis was fortunate enough to discover three arrows turned up, no doubt, by some accommodating plough share. One of these was picked up very near the spot where Lafayette's marqui had stood. All three were of common quartz, though varying in shape.

In the antiquarian department of the free library at Warren is a collection of Indian relics exhumed within the limits of the town. The most curious of these is an oval stone $23\frac{1}{4}$ by $17\frac{3}{4}$ inches in circumference having eyes, nostrils and a mouth roughly hewn on the surface. These stone "heads," which it is said were buried by the Wampanoags in the graves of distinguished sachems or pineses, are quite rare, and fortunate is the collec-

tor who can secure one of them for his cabinet.

Another interesting relic is a good sized grooved axe. Grooved axes are rarely, if ever found among the aboriginal implements of continental countries. The Indians attached them to handles by means of withes, or thongs which passed around the grooves. The axe referred to above, is a very fine and perfect specimen, though not of extraordinary size.

There are several pestles in the collection of various lengths and different shapes, spades, hoes, spears, grooved and hollowed hammer stones, sinkers, arrow heads of almost every known shape, drills and a fragment of a sort of chisel which displays a remarkably fine polish and a thin sharp edge. There is also a wampum, of genuine Indian manufacture, made from the perewinkle shell which still abounds on the shores of Warren (once Sowams) river.

Not the least noticeable relics are the grinning skulls of long dead Wampanoag warriors, with their huge teeth and tufts of coarse black hair. These skulls were disinterred, not many years ago, from the side of a hill in the southern part of the town. They are remarkable for the fact that, with one exception, they are surmounted by the remains of copper kettles inverted, and encircling the brows like crowns.

Every student of aboriginal history knows how highly the Indians valued the iron and copper kettles obtained of white traders. It was for a copper kettle that the Virginian chief, Jopazaws, once betrayed Pochahontas into the hands of the unscrupulous Argall. The one exception to the kettle crowned heads, is a skull of extraordinary size which was found reposing in an immense iron dinner pot—a strange casket doubtless considered an honorable one by the untutored beings who

selected it. Whether he to whom the skull once belonged met his death by decapitation, or whether he was beheaded after his disease is a question which, naturally, presents itself to the mind.

The writer remembers having seen in her childhood, in the "back yards" of the older house in Warren, hollowed stones and sometimes to catch the overflow from spouts, sometimes as drinking pans for poultry, and sometimes as flower pots. These stone receptacles were nothing less than the cooking utensils of the Wampanoag squaws, and perhaps from some of them Massasoit and Wamsutta, and Philip may have dined on savory succotash, roasted squash or maize bread flavored with the fragrant straw berries which once grew in wild luxuriance in Sowans. Occasionally, among heaps of rocks in the suburbs of the town, one finds the small elliptical stones which, for lack of a better name, may be termed "corn crackers." With these the aboriginal housewife cracked kernal after kernal of corn with incredible rapidity, becoming, it is said, so expert in time that she was thus able to treat about a peck of the grain in a few months.

The late Gen. G. W. Fessenden of Warren, who spent much time in the study of the Indian history of his native town, was the owner of a valuable collection of relics gathered at and near the site of Sowans. This collection is now preserved in the museum of Brown University, Providence, R.I.

Corean Money.

The money of Corea was made of copper or brass, each piece being about the size of our copper cents with a hole in the middle. It took 600 of these coins to equal in value one of our own silver dollars. As you see ten

dollars would have been a heavy burden of a man to carry, and fifteen dollars would have taxed the strength of a horse.

As there were no safety deposit vaults in Corea, the capitalists were forced to seek a method and they devised a novel one. In the spring of the year he lends his money out at 50 and 60 per cent, all loans to be repaid with full interest in the autumn. The money returns at the beginning of the winter and the Corean digs a big hole in his yard at first touch of freezing and spreads out a layer of his coin. Then he spreads more earth and soaks it with water. As soon as this is froze he spreads out another layer of coins and covers it with wet earth. Thus he continues doing until the whole is one solid mass. Thus each capitalist can have its own safety deposit vault, and the cold weather discourages thieves so there is no danger of anyone trying to dig up the money until warm spring weather.

Private Coins of Mexico and Central America.

Cafetal, a coffee plantation. They have their own money. So do the the large Landed Estates called Finca and the ranches called Haciendas. These pieces range from $\frac{1}{4}$ real to 4 pesos, or are named from the amount of work they pay for as one tarea, or Cajon, box of coffee, olives of una dia, one days work. These coins pass in the neighborhood of the Cafetals, etc., is well known as those issued by the governments. They are made in German Silver, nickel and Aluminum from 5 cents to \$1.00.

The blacksmith doesn't make one heavy strike and wait until the iron cools off to feel the dent—he keeps it up while the iron is hot and so should the advertiser.

THE PHILATELIC FISCAL SOCIETY.

Organized for the benefit of, and in the interests of Collectors of the Fiscal Stamps of All Nations.

Meetings held regularly on the first Monday in each month at 314 West 70th Street, New York City.

Officers for 1904.

President—A. E. Lawrence, 221 South Street, New York City.

Vice-Presidents—E. A. Wood and W. W. Norton.

Secretary—Raymond Wilcox, 226 N. Y. Produce Exchange Building, N. Y. City.

Treasurer—J. H. Petersen, 70 East 121st Street, New York City.

Exchange Superintendent—F. J. Schoof, 74 Bleeker Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Auction Manager—A. Herbst, 106 East 111th Street, New York City.

Librarian—W. J. Salva, 733 Tremont Avenue, New York City.

Trustees—Dr. L. M. Homburger; T. O. Young, Chairman, New Haven, N. Y.; A. B. Kay, A. M. Trujillo, E. A. Wood, J. C. Miller.

Official Journal—The Philatelic West, For further information and application blanks address the Secretary.

PAY YOUR DUES FOR 1904—\$1.00.

TRY THE EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT, and KEEP HERBST (our Auction Manager) BUSY.

APPLICATION.

Emil Spinony, P. O. Box 453, Great Fall, Montana.

Meeting held April 4th, 1904. Present: Messrs: Lawrence, Homburger, Wilcox and Salva. Minutes of previous meeting read and accepted. Report of the Exchange Department accepted as read, and published below. Mr. Emil Spinony was elected a member. The balance of the evening was taken up with exchanging stamps.

Raymond Wilcox, Secretary.

There has been some delay in sending out membership cards, but members will receive them soon.

My time has been so taken up with other matters lately that it has been

impossible to give the necessary time to the society. I have had some new application blanks printed and would be glad to send members as many as they wish upon receipt of postal.

Raymond Wilcox, Secretary,
226 N. Y. Produce Exchange Bldg.,
New York City.

REPORT OF THE EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

From Jan'y 1st 1804 to Mch, 31, '04.

7 books in circ. according to last report.....	Value \$ 88.27
32 books received since.	Value 122.29
39 books.....	Value 210.56
35 books retired since last report	Value 192.90
4 books in circulation.	Value 17.66
Sales from the 35 books retired (about 12 per cent).....	21.48

INSURANCE FUND

Balance, last report (paid to Treasurer)\$.76

Receipts since last report..... 1.08

The above does not give a clear idea of this department. Among the 39 books were 8, valued \$128.33 of which the sales were only \$2.12, therefore the sales from 31 books valued \$82.23 were \$19.36, or about 23½ per cent. The eight books mentioned contained too many stamps at excessively high prices.

F. J. Schoof, Supt.
74 Bleeker Street. Brooklyn, New York.

The third series of sales of the late Mr. Murdoch's collection of coins and medals realized \$5,000.

The collection includes a number of patterns from the mint, such as guinea and two pound pieces made of copper, nickel and pewter, and farthings made of Gold. They were struck to show the reigning sovereign the design of new dies.

The Tanner pattern five-guinea piece, dated 1770, went for \$300.

A pattern guinea of 1774, with a patented steel edge, realized \$25.

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J.
 Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
 Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
 Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
 Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
 Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg, Lithrow,
 New York.
 Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
 Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
 Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Aus-
 tin, Texas.
 Official Organ, The WEST.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Fellow Members:—

I have been so very busy ever since I was elected President of our association that I have been unable to devote much time to the work, for which I am very sorry indeed.

I shall hope to take a very active interest in our society from this time on, and hope to have the hearty co-operation of each member.

All of our departments are in running order and our hard-working secretary is especially active and deserves much credit for the excellent work he is doing.

We must decide as soon as possible upon the date we are to hold our convention and I shall be glad to have suggestions from any who intend to go.

I think perhaps the best time will be the third week of August. Will have more to say about the convention next month. Fraternally, F. W. Coning.

SEC'Y-TREASURER'S REPORT.

NEW MEMBERS.

305. J. C. Alemnolen, Aribo, Guadalajara, Mexico.

Some members have been slow in sending their dues for 1904. Please look at your membership card and if your card has expired send 25 cents and get a new one for 1904. Collectors should join now and get in in time to

go to St. Louis in August.

Respectfully, W. P. Kelley,
Sec-Treas.

3222 Peery Ave. Kansas City, Mo.

REPORT OF SALES SUP'T.

In circulation at last report.

	41 books value	\$ 663.42
Received since 9 books		\$ 162.48
	50	\$ 825.90
Retired	17 books	\$ 326.10
Now in circ.	33 "	\$ 499.80
Sales \$67.40		

Chas. Waring,
Supt. of Sales.

Interstate Philatelic Association.

OFFICERS FOR 1904.

President. C H Precemeder, 206 Taylor St, Portland, Ore
 Vice Pres. H Moeller, 254 12th St, Portland, Ore
 Secy. Treas. D E Brown, New Whatcom, Wash
 Sales Supt. W W Nickerson, Klamath Agy, Ore
 Trustees: F N M Cordlesz, 403 Luzon Bldg, Tacoma, Wash; John Zuz. Everett, Wash. and
 H L Geary, 722 Boern Ave, Seattle, Wash.
 Official Organ, The WEST.
 Convention Seat. Portland, Ore

Applications Received.

145 Edwin Caswell, 671 Marshall St., Portland, Ore.

146 H. A. Whipple 702 N. Y, Life, Omaha' Neb.

147 L. Brodstone, Superior Neb.

As the Secretary-elect has declined, I will continue to serve the society for the ensuing year.

We would be very glad to receive applications from philatelists of good standing all over the country.

Frank L. Applegate.

Many advertisers become discouraged because they expect immediate results from their ads. 'Tis true that many ads bring immediate results but that is not sufficient proof that all ads should do so. One effort at anything else does not justify giving up in despair, so how can we consistently expect more of a single ad. Perseverance thou art a jewel.

MINERALOGY

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept.—Forest Gaines, Ed.]

As an evidence of the rapid stride the science of mineralogy has taken in the last few decades the following is an example. When Prof. E. S. Dana of New Haven first issued his great work, now known as his "System of Mineralogy", the mss. went begging for a publisher in New York City and the professor finally issued it through a publishing house at his own expense. The same firm has, however, since issued all of his later editions of the volume and other works, and by so doing have built up an enviable reputation in this line. Today there are thousands of publishers who would grasp eagerly at the opportunity to get out the work on a small royalty. The publication of the great work really added an impetus to mineralogy which it had never before known, by giving the student some firm basis on which to continue his investigations. The most valuable work which Prof. Dana has recently issued is his "Minerals and How to Study Them".

It is a very valuable guide to the young student and may be obtained at almost any store which handles scientific works.

It is reported that many amusing blunders are performed by persons who are recipients of diamonds as gifts, around the holiday and other seasons. The one of these performed most often is the habit of smashing the jewel with a hammer to see if it is genuine. This is perhaps caused by the great influx spurious stones on the market at present. While the diamond is the hardest known substance, it is also

very brittle and easily crushed under a hammer. Many fine stones are thus ruined each year by these persistent "searches after the truth." Thus some knowledge of this popular science, would be the means of saving these people hundreds and even thousands of dollars in valuable gems.

The time of year will soon be here when the mineral collector can get out in all his glory and resume fitting up his cabinet; especially if he or she lives in a prominent mineral bearing locality. Our collector can get out in all his glory and resume fitting up his cabinet; especially if he or she lives in a prominent mineral bearing locality. Our own collection has been vastly increased by our efforts in this line and we have to consider not only the value of the specimens collected in this way, but also the valuable experience that comes from actual field work. But while you are thus collecting from your own locality do not let your exchanges drop, for that is the most valuable way I know of for acquiring specimens representative of the mineral production of the country. And at different periods, as your knowledge increases a few of the rarer species can be obtained from the reliable and thoroughly responsible dealers. Thus as your cabinet is built up your knowledge of the species keep pace at the same time. As you find your specimens in your rambles, let us hear from you in regard to anything interesting, which may turn up during your observations.

Some of the most curious concretions of agate it has been our fortune to see, have recently come to light in the vicinity of Clinton, Iowa. They are comparatively small, measuring only a few inches in length at the largest and are formed in the manner of elon-

gated shafts, with a small cavity through the center. They are usually found split in half and the color of the agate is yellow or brownish red. The supposition is that these "tubes" were formerly organs of belemnites, which latter were cuttle-fishes of a past period in the world's history. They carried an ink-bag the same as our present day cuttle fishes and so escaped from enemies by discoloring the surrounding water.

A Collection of Old Newspapers and Books

B y A. C. D o n a l d

We are all aware of the fact that in reading there is knowledge.

The collecting of old newspapers and books is a fad—or hobby, which has, and will for long maintain its place near the head of various hobbies, that are being ardently pursued by collectors. Although, not indulged in, by many collectors, it is interesting.

It is a silent instructor in his facts, quaint orthography, literature, ideas of the time, manners, wit and humor. An instructive and profitable collection, it certainly is, and much pleasure can be derived from a collection. Enjoyment can be had in leisure moments by pouring over a few old books and papers, with their yellow-stained and musty pages, with their once black ink, now shaded to a brown.

Again, old engraving and prints often catch the eye, which illustrate the old styles and fashions then in use.

In an old "Punch" of 1857 it shows the styles of dresses then in use. My but they are wide ones, and again those beautiful (?) bonnets the ladies wore.

In old newspapers the first thing we notice is the numerous advertisements of lotteries, (common things they

were); Elixers of Life, (the silly notions were still believed); Slave Auctions, Rewards for Run away Slaves, For Sale: Haunted Houses; Wanted: Apprentices; etc., etc. We also note the poor bindings on magazines and books, and the quality of paper, the "oulden time type" and the last general appearance.

The young collector, as well as the advanced must keep his eyes open, for the rarest treasures are often found in out-of-way places.

It would be advisable for the beginner to visit some old book shop for he can sometimes find valuable specimens for his collection. He should also rummage a little in the attic, old trunks and other places of concealment.

Oft times there are many facts to be found in old books and magazines that are not to be had in history, and other great works; some times startling facts. I remember reading once in a Confederate paper about a "fighting parson" who had a hand to hand battle with Gen. Sherman and finally killed the said general; again in a paper I saw an account about the assassination of a President, and it was supposed that a certain general of national repute was an arch conspirator of the plot.

There seems to be some strange fascination in these old volumes. As we glance over our cabinet and at that of some modern book and paper we can easily perceive the advance in the manufacture of paper and improvement of style of engraving, and the binding. When we look over these we surmise the hard efforts made by our fore-fathers to print a simple paper, and the crude efforts used by them in earlier days. In fact, it seems that although every thing has undergone vast changes, the three things in most common use; paper, the press and the ink have made unprecedented strides forward and we are the gainer thereby.

The Spell of Old Things.

By Elma Iona Locke.

Wherein lies the charm of the ancient? Old china, old coins, old implements, and, oldest of all, fossils from the older strata of the earth; All these and many others have for the collector a fascination with which no modern thing, however superior in beauty and workmanship, can compare. Although possessing a great love for the beautiful in all things, I must confess that for me the most beautiful of fresh shells, exquisite in form; and in color showing all the tints of the rain bow, has not half the charm of the little silicified shell, dull in color, perhaps broken in form, but, magic power, which has lain buried for untold ages in the solid rock; it speaks to us of a life long since vanished from the earth. For, once that bit of flinty matter was a living breathless creature!

I remember the first fossils I ever discovered, I knew nothing of their science, but they were just as fascinating for all that. They were contained in a little heap of gravel left by some masons where they had sifted out sand for their use. Only little sections of crinoid stems, tiny specimens of Terebratulæ, cup-corals, etc., but how many pleasant hours were spent in the search for them! How eagerly was every available source scanned for information concerning them!

Later, I made several visits to the locality from which they were brought, and added other and larger specimens to my small collection. This was the limestone formation on the Grand River in Worth county, Mo., a few miles from the state line. The stone is quarried here in places along the river.

In summer when the water is low,

the river becomes dry in some places, in others there will be but a few inches of water over the cool stone bed, while in still others there will be deep, dark pools of varying depth; these latter are I presume, where the stone bed is lacking. With a camera one might obtain some interesting views here. One striking scene in particular is impressed upon my memory: On one side of the river, a low, grassy plot, sloping gently down to the sandy beach and then to the water; on the other side, a sheer rocky bluff rising perhaps fifteen or twenty feet, presenting a perfectly perpendicular face, looking as if it had been cut straight down through the solid rock. Upon the top of this wall of rock (the abrupt ending, perhaps, of a ridge, or long, billow-like hill,) great trees were growing, throwing their shadows over the cool, deep waters below.

Wading about in the shallow water, one can often pick up fossils washed out clear from their last compact matrix by the constant flow of the water. A small piece of slatestone which I picked up, contained a fine specimen of *Productus longispinus* imbedded in its surface; the shell showing pure white against its almost black background was plainly seen through the shallow water.

Not only in the water, but washed up among the pebbles and broken rock upon the banks and low places, the fossils are found, as well as in the quarried rock. But from the latter care and experience are required to obtain them unbroken. A collector with plenty of time and proper tools could gather quite a collection here, for in a few brief visits which I made to the spot, and from rock brought from the locality, and with only a common hammer and chisel, I collected some-

where about forty varieties, ranging from the most tiny specimens up to an *Allorisma subcuneata* over three inches long.

I have not yet succeeded in naming all the species found, but taking Dana's Manual as a guide, I was enabled to classify some of Brachiopods for the general Productus, Spirifer, etc., among them the beautiful Butterfly Spirifer, although my specimens were unfortunately far from as perfect as those illustrated. Also quite a number of other species of shells and corals.

What unaccountable millions of these little creatures, some of them microscopic in size, must have swarmed in the waters of the pre-historic world that their shells could have formed this solid rock of many feet in thickness! The human mind fails to grasp the immensity of such facts as these. And this is only one of the many wonders revealed to the student and lover of nature and her works. However old some of the works of man may be, none of them can compare with those of nature, or claim to be as old as the hills."

TWIN CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Twin City Philatelic Society meets second Friday of each month at No. 535 Smithfield st., Pittsburg, Pa.

President—E Doeblin, Box 737, Pittsburg, Pa.

Vice President—Dr T L Hazzard, 56 Montgomery avenue, Allegheny, Pa.

Secretary—Geo W Rode, 255 Fifth avenue, Pittsburg, Pa.

Treasurer—N S Coe, 2437 Webster Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

Sales Superintendent—J M Crom, East Pittsburg, Pa.

Librarian—Max Arnheim 908 Liberty Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

Counterfeit Detector—H E Wilson, Fitzsimmons Bldg. Pittsburg, Pa.

Regular meeting held April 8th, '04.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Seven members were present at Roll Call.

The committee arrangements for the

coming convention of the American Philatelic Association, reported by reading the minutes of its meetings.

The secretary was instructed to circulate slips among the members with the object of compiling a complete list of all stamp collectors in this vicinity.

Messrs. Hemphill, Maynard and Vroman were appointed a committee on program for the ensuing year, to select topics and assign them to the members.

Messrs. Maynard, Rode and Coe were appointed a committee to select an official organ for the coming year.

The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$109.32.

Adjourned.

Geo. W. Rode, Sec'y.

Regular meeting held Mch. 11, 1904, President Doeblin presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Six members and three visitors were present at Roll Call.

The report of ex-Treasurer Platz, with certificate of the Auditing committee attached, was read and filed.

The committee of Arrangements for the convention reported progress, and the subscription to the entertainment fund now amount to \$306.50. On motion the society pledged a special guarantee fund of \$100.00. The secretary read a letter from corresponding member Mr. John M. Luff, acknowledging receipt of the silver medal awarded him and offering to exhibit another portion of his collection at some future meeting.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Luff for the offer.

The resignation of Otto D. Heine-man was accepted.

Messrs. Robert D. Maynard and Ross D. Vrooman were elected resident members.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$104.07.

Adjourned.

Geo. W. Rode, Sec'y.

The Earliest Money.

By W. J. JEREMAS, Jr.

Before metals came into use as money to simplify trading, various articles were used as tokens of value. The earliest currency of which we have any knowledge existed in China. Best, in the "Journal Asiatique" for 1837 remarks: "There are indications of an early currency of shells or beads in China, which were used for an ornament in embroidery or a kind of jewelry, like the wampum of the American Indians."

The introduction of metallic money falls in the third thousand years before Christ. The metals were first coined in various forms in imitation of the older barter currency. Some coins are in the shape of garments, and others in the form of knives.

Round coins, with a square hole in the middle were introduced 1022 B. C. The Chinese have never improved on the first round coinage which was cast. The supply of gold and silver in China was small and very little of either was used. The intrinsic value was very high, while the cost of living for a man in the lower class was one cash per day; one thousand cash were worth one tael of silver (11.3 oz.), so that one cash was about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mills in our money.

After the Chinese, the coinage next in point of antiquity is ascribed to Lydia, one of the provinces of Asia Minor. The first Lydian coinage was of gold which was obtained from the river Pactolus, by process now known as placer mining, and the first pieces were struck about 700 B. C., possibly by the great Gyges himself.

The art of coinage, there commenced, spread rapidly over the civilized world, being introduced by the young trading people of that period, and, in

the course of the next century we find coins struck with emblems or symbols of most of the more important Greek cities and states, and by Persia.

The Greek coinage, from 700 B. C. to the time of Roman supremacy, is in many respects the most important, and the most interesting which may be studied. The following extract from the preface to the British Museum "Guide to the Coins of the Ancients" will give some idea of the use of Greek numismatics: "The chief value of Greek coins lies in their being original works of art, not copies as are most of the extant sculptures in the round, and in the recording the successive phases and local varieties of Greek art, in which respect no other class of monuments, sculptures, bronzes, terra cottas, fictile vases, or gems can compete them. From the seventh century before the Christian era downwards, and from the farthest east to the extreme west of the ancient civilized world, coins are all extant, in many cases as uninjured as when they first left the dies. The devices or types which they bear, if not by leading artists, certainly faithfully represent the style of the sculpture and even of the painting of the period to which they belong. Thus in no other branch of Greek monuments can the student so readily and so thoroughly trace the growth, the maturity, and the decay of the plastic art as on coins chronologically arranged."

"For the mythology they present the local conceptions of the gods and heroes worshipped in the Greek world with their attributes and symbols."

"The historian will find a gallery of portraits of sovereigns almost complete as well as evidences of the history and of the political revolutions of innumerable autonomous states and cities in these all cut imperishable records."

"The student of paleography will find on coins examples of various ancient alphabets, such as Lycian and Cyprian; Phoenician, Greek, Latin, Iberian, etc., in various stages of development."

"The metrologist, by comparing the weights of coins of different localities and periods, may gain an insight into the various systems of ancient metrology in its various standards, and obtain a just view of the relative values of the precious metals, and of the great lines of trade in the Greek and Roman world."

"For practical purposes the medalist and art workman will find in Greek coins the most profitable as well as the safest guide. The artist will not fail to perceive the suggestive value of designs which, on however small a scale, are essentially large in treatment."

For purposes of study, Greek coins may be divided into eight chronological periods as follows:

- I. B. C. 700-480. Period of Archaic Art, ending with Persian wars.
- II. B. C. 480-430. Period of Transitional Art, between the Persian and Peloponnesian wars.
- III. B. C. 430-400. Period of Early Fine Art, to the end of the Athenian supremacy.
- IV. B. C. 400-336. Period of Finest Art, Age of the Spartan Theban supremacy (Philip and Macedon).
- V. B. C. 333-280. Period of Later Fine Arts. Age of Alexander the Great and his immediate successors.
- VI. B. C. 280-107. Period of the declining Art. Age of the Epigoni or descendants of Alexander's successors.
- VII. B. C. 197-27. Period of Late Decline of Art. Age of the Antipatrids, Mithridates, and of the Roman supremacy.
- VIII. B. C. 27-A. D. 268. Period of the latest Decline of Art. The Empire, Augustus to Gallienus.

Sailors' Curiosities

There was much consternation among the members of the Maritime Exchange in New York recently, when it was announced that the dusty old curios and relics which have been collected by it were to be sold. For a score of years old sea captains and shipowners had been contributing unique things to the collection. From all parts of the world have these things come. There is a bottle of ashes collected in New York at the time of the "great fire of 1835." Poisoned arrowheads and Zulu assegais, coins of all periods and many different countries, old bills. Confederate money—genuine bills—a cheque issued by the Treasury of the United States of 1 cent, refunding an overpayment of duties, and bark clothing from Ecuador, are typical exhibits. Edible birds' nests and hornets' nests—not edible—range alongside butterflies from the Straits of Sunda and bows and arrows from New Guinea. There are a number of old books, including a copy of "In Episto * * * San Joannes, Apostoli," Nuremberg, 1524; "Anthony Jenkinson," 1558, and "Select Essays," by Sir Walter Raleigh. Two letters sent in opposite directions around the world many years ago serve to show how rapidly globe routes have been improved since 1886. The eastward bound letter made the journey around the world in 94 days; the westward-bound in 133 days.

The museum was started about twenty years ago. Thomas P. Ball, the first President of the Maritime Exchange when a youth went aboard the *Savannah*, a privateer commissioned by the Confederacy, and later to be captured by the Union as she lay in New York harbor after her capture and found a cannister shot in her hold. This he laid away in a drawer of his desk. Twenty years later he found it again and took it to the Exchange where it became the nucleus of the present collection.

The Archeology of New York. * * *

III.—METALIC IMPLEMENTS.

By Oswald A. Bauer, A. S. of C. C. 325.

In taking up the consideration of the metallic implements of the New Indians we find that almost all of them and certainly all of the strictly native ones are composed of copper, the easiest of the metals to weld into form, which the Indian had. Later when the white man's incursions introduced new ideas to the Indian he learned to make articles of other metals beside copper, more particularly of brass. As these latter, however, are more the result of borrowed ideas and do not show the native skill we shall first consider those which are in idea and execution the Indians. These latter are almost entirely of copper.

These early copper implements were probably all made before the close of the 15th century. A large majority of those found have the celt and chisel shapes, narrowing at one end. Several forms suggest the modern axe. One of these found in Ontario county was a native copper and is three inches long. Its greatest breadth is almost 2 inches and the cutting edge is curved. A great majority of the native copper celts expand toward the cutting edge. A specimen of this variety found was more than usually rounded and has the opposite end coming to the point. The length is over 5½ inches and the implement is very sharp. Several copper awls and drills have also been found. One of the former found in the Mowhawk valley was remarkable for the finish. Many have been found near Pompey, N. Y., but they have the appearance of being cast and on the whole of being a more modern production.

Spear heads perhaps have the widest range and are the commonest of any of these metal implements. They are chiefly of two types. In some the base is drawn out to a point for insertion in a shaft and are usually notched for a cord attachment while in others the lower edges are bent over forming a socket, while the flanges point inward to give a better grip. Usually the blade is flat upon one side and ridged on the other. The specimens found in New York have either one or two notches or not at all. Those found have varied in length from three to seven or eight inches. No doubt a great many of these spears were used as knives. One specimen which deserves special mention is that of a gauge which is rare in New York and in fact, anywhere. It is 2¾ inches long by 2¼ broad and has the sides in the shape of contrasting flanges. It has a curved back and an abruptly leveled cutting edge. The specimen was found near the Seneca river bridge and is in the collection of a Mr. Harris of Rome.

A few specimens of knives have also been found. One picked up near the mouth of the Mattiowan creek was double pointed. Fragmentary pieces of copper are quite scarce but a large number of copper beads have been found. In one grave alone about five miles from the city of Schenectady 235 specimens of copper beads were dug up, all of them tempered.

In the more modern or recent metallic articles we at once see the influence of the white man's ideas. A great many arrows have been found, chiefly on Iroquois sites which directly show this contact. Many of them, no doubt, were of white manufacture and were traded off to the natives. They are mostly made from thin sheet iron or brass, an old brass kettle in the latter

case being often used. They are usually of long triangular shape and embodying various other important features. The brass kettle took the place of the earthen pot to a great extent although the latter survived for a long time owing to the limited means of the Indian. They came to prize it highly however, and as they always buried it with the dead, in order to prevent its being pilfered would knock a hole in the bottom before placing it in the ground. Copper spoons are rare as the Indian preferred the wooden in whose manufacture he exhibited so much skill. A limited number of the former have been found however.

Another more modern article which is found is the metallic pipes. These were made of pewter, brass, lead or copper. They are usually of simple forms. Sometimes they were combined with wood and stone or some other metal but this was not the common form. It was a great custom to present these pipes in large number at Indian councils and no doubt this is the source when a great many of them emanated. An article which was used by the Indian although not a native manufacture was the "trade axe." It was used by the white man in trading with the native and many of the transactions between the two were arranged in this way, the trader paying in axes. Large numbers of these are found in the western counties. A variety which might perhaps deserve special mention is the tomahawk pipe, so called from its double use. It combined in one piece the character of a pipe and axe. Some have been found as much as thirteen inches long.

A large number of miscellaneous articles have also been found all of modern origin. They are too numerous to be mentioned in such space but to give an illustration the following paragraph from an account by Beau-

champ may be interesting, he says: "W. W. Adams took out of one Cayuga grave the following articles on May 2, 1888. One brass kettle, 17 flints, two gunflints, six bullets, six long shell beads, a bone harpoon, three buckshorn handles, a knife with buck horn handle, 21 gaming flints, three bars of lead, five rubbing stones, 16 bear tusks, two axes, two pairs of shears, four pairs of bullet moulds, two gunlocks with flints, 47 pieces of gunlocks, 32 knives and cutting implements, two large iron shears, a gun 4 ft. 8 in. long, a pipe, a piece of black paint, a piece of mica, two trigger guards, one warmer, a gun cleaner, steele and two flints, a quantity of powder in a cloth bag, two melting ladles and 2,500 wampum beads. Beside these there were a few Jesuit bronze rings." The above list certainly shows a remarkable diversity of articles and illustrates better than any account could the nature of articles found in the old graves and used by the more modern Indian. Of course these are not strictly speaking of Indian manufacture but are of white origin mostly and are such as the Indian used after white contact. A distinction must be made between them and those which are strictly aboriginal. Of the earlier copper implements the distribution on the whole is quite uniform and the quantity is not large. The more modern Iroquois certainly had no metallic implements they did not adopt from the whites.

One ad will build a business about as thoroughly as one brick will build a building. The more bricks used the larger and stronger the building; the higher it will peer over the others. The same is unquestionably true of advertising.

If at first you don't succeed, advertise again.

Benefits Derived From Philocarty * * *

By Henry Herbert Huff.

(Continued from last number)

Then, too picture cards cultivate study from nature, and as you all know, a real picture will make much deeper impressions on the mind than lengthy descriptions.

Much historical knowledge may be derived from philocarty. As many cards bear pictures of places of important in history their value is evident. To see the place where some great event is interesting, indeed, and will often cause many previously learned facts regarding the event to recur to one's memory. Then, too, it will foster a tendency among many to read further regarding the event and those unfamiliar with the event the scene of which is given on the card will, in many instances, take pains to read about it.

Literary value is suggested when cards bear pictures of authors and their homes and such is quite frequent. Collectors will be enthusiastic to obtain pictures and houses and birth places of their favorite authors and he who is unfamiliar with the author whose home is pictured on a card he has received, through curiosity, will be likely to read some of his works.

Art may be learned from souvenir cards in several ways. The printing of cards in several colors and by new processes has come to be an art and one that is particularly interesting when observed on the various specimens of a collection. As many cards bear pictures of large and famous buildings one has an excellent opportunity to study the style of architecture used in different lands and appreciate more fully some of the mag-

nificent structures that are products of untold labor.

Of late many souvenir card collectors are having cards of their own made for exchange use. These are usually reproduced from photographs taken by the collectors, themselves as a large number of philocartists are photographers, too. In this way photography may be learned from them. It would prove both interesting and instructive to those collectors who are photographers to observe the merits and defects in the pictures they receive, the beauty and suitability of the scene, and notice especially the artistic effect produced by different lights and points of view.

Many cards are now bearing photographs of kings, queens and prominent people of all kinds. Such cards teach biography in a pleasing manner. On a few appear short biographies of the personages while others give simply the name leaving the collector to look up further information regarding them.

In the article I have suggested only such benefits derived from philocarty as are afforded by no other hobby. To them may be added all the educational values of philately (limited to stamps of the present time since philocarty has not long been extant) and the instructive qualities of postmark collecting (curious postmarks being especially abundant on cards that have come from foreign lands.)

Visitors to foreign lands now-a-days usually send some of these cards, at frequent intervals, to some friend in their home country, illustrating such places as they have visited. On their return the cards are a source of greatest interest to them and ever afterward the sight of some of them will recall some pleasing remembrance of an incident on their journey. Philocarty is growing rapidly in popularity and has promise of a great future. It affords such pleasure and instruction as may be had from no other hobby and thus fills a field of its own.



AN ACCOUNT OF THE COINAGE OF BRITISH INDIA WITH HISTORI- CAL NOTES.

By Wayte Raymond, A. N. A.

India, that vast empire of constant insurrection in the East, was first visited by the English in 1579, when Thomas Stephens, a trader, brought home such a glowing account of the trading possibilities of the country, that several other tradesmen were induced to emigrate, but they were suppressed and imprisoned by the Portuguese. However, Cornelius Houtman made a successful voyage around the Cape of Good Hope in 1596, after which it was an easy matter to introduce the enterprising British merchants into the country.

In 1600 the merchants of London, seeing great possibilities in an opposition to the Dutch trade, formed an association entitled "The Governor and Company of Merchants of London Trading to the East Indies." This company was capitalized at £70,000, afterward raised to £400,000, and absorbed within the first half of the seventeenth century two rival incorporations known as "The Assada Merchants" and "The Company of Merchant Adventurers." In 1698 a most formidable rival arose in the amalgamation of the "General Society Trading to the East Indies." This company, however, was successfully

joined with the original and termed "The United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies," which gradually devolved into the well known "East India Company," which practically assumed control of the country until 1858, when the control was taken over by the ruling British sovereign, Queen Victoria, who in 1877 was proclaimed Empress of India.

The first coinage for the use of India in general was instituted by Queen Elizabeth, and is generally known as the "Portcullis Money," which maybe described as follows: Sixpence, shilling, half crown and crown, all similar. Obverse—The crowned shield of Queen Elizabeth between the letters E. R. each crowned, the same within a circle, surrounded by O: Elizabeth D. G. Aug: Fra: Et. Hiber: Regina.

Reverse—A crowned portcullis with a circle surrounded by O. Posiu. Demn. Adintorem. Meum.

There is also a half penny of this series, but the same was struck for circulation in England alone, and not sent to India.

The next series of coins is that of William IV, and consists of the gold mohur and double mohur and silver rupee, half and quarter rupee. Obverse of gold, plainhead of William IV to right around, which is the legend: William IIII King, and date 1835. Reverse—A lion passant in front of a palm tree, surrounded by East India Company, with the value in exergue.

The silver coinage is similar. Obverse—Plain head of William IV to right, with William IIII King. Reverse—The value in English and

Arabic within a laurel wreath surrounded by East India Company, 1835.

The present Indian coinage is based on the rupee a silver coin about the size of a half dollar of the value of about a quarter dollar. The following monetary table is quoted from Howarth's "Colonial Coins and Token." "The rupee is divided into 16 annas; and each anna into 4 paises (or pysas or pice each paisa into 3 pies." When you get one of the Bengal coppers for one pie you think you have a bakery check.

The first series of gold for Victoria may be described as follows: Obverse—Bust of the Queen to left, head crowned and shoulders' draped, Victoria Queen on either side. Reverse Within a scroll of lotus flowers One Mohur India and dates, or Ten Rupees or Five Rupees. The obverse later changing its legend to Victoria Empress.

The silver coinage varies to a considerable extent. Obverse—Head of Queen to the left under Victoria Queen. Reverse—Same as that of William IV with the exception of date 1840, and a two anna piece struck in 1841. A later series is similar, but has the Victoria Queen divided on either side of the head.

In 1869 a much tastier coinage appeared. Obverse—Crowned head of Victoria, Victoria Queen on either side. Reverse—Within a lotus wreath the value, One Rupee Indian, or Half Rupee, $\frac{1}{4}$ Rupee and Two Annas. In 1877 the alteration to Victoria Empress was made.

The first copper for India in general was minted in 1835 and consists of the half anna, quarter anna, $\frac{1}{2}$ pice and 1-12 anna. Obverse—The arms, crest supporters and motto: Ausp Regis Sen Anglia—of the East India Company with date above the motto and under the shield. Reverse—A laurel wreath, East India Company above, the value, Half Anna, One Quarter Anna, $\frac{1}{2}$ Pice, and 1-12 Anna, in En-

glish and Arabic. The half and quarter anna pieces have the Arabic letters above the English, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ pice and 1-12 anna piece have them below.

In 1861 the Queen issued a pretty set of the same denominations. Obverse—Head of Victoria, crowned, Victoria Queen on either side.

Reverse—A beautifully formed wreath of intertwining flowers and leaves and a small circle of dots, surrounding Half Anna, India and date or One Quarter Anna India and date, $\frac{1}{2}$ Pice India and date, and 1-12 Anna India and date.

The change from Victoria Queen to Victoria Empress is also made in the copper coinage, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ pice is discontinued.

(To be continued.)

The next article will be on the coins and contemporaneous history of the Bombay presidency.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Welgel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1802 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Department of Mineralogy—Forrest Gaines Glendive, Mont.

Department of Conchology (Marine, Atlantic Division)—J. Lewis Wheeler, 30 Lenox Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Conchology (Marine Pacific Division)—Chas. Russell Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Conchology (Terrestrial Division)—Charles Russell Orcutt, 365 12th St., San Diego, Cal.

Department of War Relics—A. H. Bailey, Superintendent, Marietta, Ga.

Department of Entomology—Prof. C. Abbott Davis, 131 Elmwood Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Numismatics—E. L. Bangs, 1401 Clarkson St., Baltimore, Md.

Department of Botany—C. R. Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Archaeology—Arthur B. Coover, Superintendent, Roxabell, O.

Department of Birds and Mammals—

Department of Geology—F. A. Brown, East Peru, Iowa.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month. The secretary

will furnish application blanks.

All honest collectors, whatever be their chosen branch of collecting, except stamps, are invited to join. We do not solicit stamp collectors as members as there are so many good philatelic societies now in existence, but collectors of stamps who collect along other lines also are invited to become members.

Free Identification Bureau for naming and classifying shells, minerals, fossils, coins, etc., for members only, in charge of a competent superintendent, will examine and name doubtful specimens submitted to them by members.

NEW MEMBERS

- 535 H. Wolf, Durkee Ont.
- 536 Leroy Frazier, Marion Ks.
- 537 Willis R. Longenecker Brunnersville Pa.
- 538 C. M. Baker bx 15 Graniteville, S. C.
- 539 D. P. Wilkennar, 1135, 20th St. Des Moines Ia
- 540 M. I. Heron, L Bx 12 Pender Neb
- 541 E. Haley Bx 192 Buena Vista Col.
- 542 W. D. Morrill, 21 Arlington St. Lynn, Mass.

NEW APPLICATIONS.

- 543 George Weltz, 418 Olive St Santa Rosa Calif
- 544 R. Richard, Appleton Wis., 846, Edwards St
- 545 L. T. Hamer, Roberval Que., Can.
- 546 M. F. Mehta, Galkissa India Asia
- 547 C. N. Daly, Guelph Ont, Canada.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 443 Owen T. Brewer, from Arcada, Fla. to Owens Fla.
- Roy L. Jewell, Palo Alto, Calif., box 91.

Edinburgh, Scotland

3 Senorita Manuella Lloveras. 1256 Maipu St. Argentine Republic, S A.

4 Trayco Petcoff, 105 Rue Alabiuska Sophia, Bulgaria

5 Miss D Petty, 41 Archer St, Darlington, Durham, Eng

6 A I Utrielopuls, Rue Ermon. 58 Patras, Greece.

7 A O E Hawsket, Sec'y "Globe" Card Exchange, Box 301, Minneapolis Minn. U. S. A.

8 Miss Inez L Place, 221 Waldo St. Providence R I. U S A

9 U S Moore, Lamax, Ill, U S A

10 Miss Ellen Swanson, 1658 Broadway, Kansas City Mo., U S A

11 H W Lintz, Hebron, Ark., U S A

12 E J Gee, 915 Lombard St., Wilmington, Del, U S A

13 E W Young, bx 2, Hebron, Ark. U S A

14 J E Lemoine, Sorel, Quebec, Canada.

15 J McDonald Scott, M D. 378 W. Van Buren St. Chicaga, Ill., U S

16 O L Nihouse, 2209 N Market St., St. Louis Mo

17 L Brodstone, Bx 6 Superior, Neb.

Send in your application for membership at once. Dues are small, benefits large, we want you. Join us

Members receive THE WEST one year, 5 fine colored souvenir cards, membership certificate large list card collectors from all parts of the world and have free exchange notices in official organ—The WEST. Other benefits later.

Those not wishing THE WEST get everything else and dues are only 25c for U S and 35c for foreign.

Mr. Selige, our president, wishes to announce that he no longer exchanges any cards whatever being too much occupied with his large card business.

Application blanks etc., gladly sent upon request. All inquiries answered with pleasure. Address all communications to the secretary. Trusting to have a large list of new members for next month. Respectfully, H W Lintz,

Secretary, Hebron, Ark. U S A



**UNION SOUV-
ENIR CARD
EXCHANGE**

Adolph Selige, St
Louis, Mo., Pres;
H. W. Lintz, He-
bron, Ark., U.S.A.
Secy-Treas.



Card Collectors, join the best society of its
kind. Dues, for U. S. and possessions 50c
per year including the WEST; Foreign 75c

MEMBERS FOR MAY

1 Octave Bocuquett, 7 Rue Cail, Paris France

2 A L Craige, 50 Roslyn Crescent,

Carte Mobile Trip Around The World

B y M K E L L E R

Continued from last No.

"Kissing the Blarney Stone." Most every one may have heard or read about the superstitions regarding this mysterious stone. A card depicts the stone being kissed by a man who appears to be standing on his head, but is hanging on his feet from the top, being securely fastened or held by others. This verse may tell all of the under markings of this Blarney stone.

"There is a stone whoever kisses
Oh! he never misses to grow eloquent
'Tis he may clamber to a lady's
chamber

Or become a number of sweet parliment.

A clever spouter he'll sure turn out
Or an out and outer to be left alone.

Don't hope to hinder him, or to bewilder him

Sure he's a Pilgrim from the Blarney stone

This stone is built into the walls of a noted castle built in 1446 by Cormack MacCarthy and is now no doubt a picturesque ivy clad ruin. The fame of the castle is really due to the possession of the Blarney stone, which is a block bearing the name of the founder and the date as is seen on the card. It is said to be built in the south angle of the castle several feet below the top. Access to it is well nigh impossible, therefore a substitute has been provided the kisses of the tourists, judging from the card it looks to be dangerous performance, as three or four other men are having hold of the substitutes feet and coat tails, while he is securely holding himself on iron rods extended from the top down to the kissing stone. The origin of this legend is not known. Large numbers of people still climb to kiss it every

year. The Blarney castle is about four miles from Clark Ireland. It was built in the fifteenth century, Sir Walter Scott is said to have kissed it in his day, also other noted people of the past and present.

Prof M. G. Rohan tells of his recent trip to Ireland that she stands as of yore full square to the blast, and shall in the future yet come forth with victory for on the virgin brow of Erin no stain of dishonor has ever been placed. He also said further that the history and scenery of Ireland are the glory of the Irish race. To know and keep fresh in our memories the Irish history, the natural beauties of the Eden of the West and know the associations of her ruins inspires us with a love for the past that throws its enthusiasm athwart the future. Why is Ireland such a historical country? Why do we find more suing there than in any other land? Simply because no land ever suffered so much devastation. These spectral ruins remain till the present day as ivy crowned monuments of English capacity. Read the story of England's treatment to Ireland if you would know of a persecution greater than the Huns left of Rome. Our next trip will be to Paris and other places of interest in France.

A carte mobile trip to some of the grand places in France, will bring before us many pleasant scenes of which we have read and heard about so often. France, as everyone knows, has for centuries ranked in facilities for the higher education, as the best facilities for study in the world are still to be found in France. Paris, the so-called City of Cities, is one of the most important for sight seeing and some of the pleasing views on cards received from relatives and friends show very interesting views of her various magnificent palaces, temples, mansions

and others of importance. Paris, though an old city, is called a modern city. It is said to have been twice burned by the pirates, who would have tried to do the same a third time, had not the city been surrounded by lofty walls and fortified bridges. The first modernizing began under Napoleon III. It is now the recognized capital of the world of art and literature, and especially of dress and manner. The Arc de Triomphe du Carrousel seen on one card shows it to be much rebuilt and rather modern though it dates from the reign of the first Emperor, so also the famous Rue de Rivoli, the Column of the Palace Vendome. The Arc de Triomphe de Carrousel stamps in a square inclosed by the Tuileries and the Louvre. It is to resemble the Arch of Constantine at Rome having a large archway between two small ones flanked by Corinthian columns, and a high top. Reliefs over the small archways represents incidents of the campaigns and over the columns are placed statues of soldiers of the empire, and in the spandrels of the large archway are sculptured Victories. On the very top in the centre is a group in bronze representing a four horse chariot. It is 48 feet high and 65½ feet wide. This was sent by a certain french Mr. H. Laverdan of Paris-Atenil. The Rue de Rivoli is a very important Str. of Paris, dating from the first empire and derives its name from the victory of Bonaparte over the Austrians at Rivoli, Jan. 14, 1797. The present street seen on the card was completed in 1865. It shows the Place du Palais Royal. The Column Vendome is a large, high monument in the square Vendome, erected by Napoleon I. Its height is said to be 142 feet, its diameter 13 feet.

(Continued in next issue)

Stamp Collectors Association.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS.

President—W. H. Barnum, 661 Rose Bldg. Cleveland, Ohio
 Vice President—L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.
 Secretary—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Illinois
 Treasurer—W. A. Zuehlke, Appleton, Wisconsin
 Sales Supt.—H. C. Crowell, Caxton Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.
 Official Organ—The WEST, Superior, Neb.

SECRETARY'S REPORT—NEW MEMBERS.

- 92—R W Ashcroft, 329-78th, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 93—R. T. Baldwin, 191, 54th st, Chicago, Ill
 94—S L Irvine. Sta. G, Washington, D. C.
 95—S. Wylie, Sidney, N S W
 96—J. C. Miller, Coal Valley, Pa.
 97—W. H. Hetherington, Kankakee, Ill
 98—L. G. French, 249 Quinby ave, Cleveland, O.
 99—D. H. Berger, 934 Church st, Flint, Mich
 100—N. W. Mercer, Bellevue, Wash.
 101—R Van Benschoten, Hudson, N Y
 102—R. Von Pirch, Berlin, Ont., Can
 103—H. F. Coleman, Washington, D C

Applications For Membership.

- 104—Alfred E. Cole, 1230 East Front St Plainfield, N J Advertising, age 34. Ref. S. E. Moisant, H B DeSelm.
 105—R S Beck, 403 W Central Ave., St. Paul, Minn, Clerk, age 19. Ref. P. F. Distelhorst, S E Moisant
 106—Herbert Smith, box 773, Spokane, Wash. clerk, age 24. Ref. L T Brodstone, Holley Masson, Marks & Co.
 107—H P Winkham, 1135 20th st., Des Moines, Ia. Stamp dealer, age 18, Ref. L T Brodstone, A C Stewart.
 108—H D Munger, age 19, Corning, N Y. Ref Moisant and Blair.
 109—J A Solomon, age 18, Greenwich, R I 109 Main st., Ref Cass and Moisant

I have a large supply of application blanks on hand and shall be pleased to send a liberal supply to all members requesting the same

Respectfully submitted,
 S E Moisant
 Sec.

Sec'y Reports Application of

110 F. Coombs, Chicago, Ill, 225
Dearborn, St.

111 S. Valentine Saxby, Rockford
Ill. Reference, DeSelms and
Moisant.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS.

Cleveland, O., April 4th, 1904.

To the Members of the S. C. A.:

At this time it devolves upon me to call for nominations for the Board of Directors to be elected at the Annual Convention to be held at Pittsburgh, Pa., in the month of August, 1904.

On account of lack of funds it has been deemed inadvisable, upon the part of your officers, to have the constitution printed at present, and therefore, for the information of the members, the following excerpts, relative to elections and offices, are now given.

ARTICLE V—SECTION I: The election of officers shall be held at each Annual Convention, and they shall serve until their successors have qualified. Nominations for officers must be mailed to the Secretary at least forty days before the date of the convention, and shall be published by him in the Official Journal nearest to thirty days prior to the date for closing the polls.

ARTICLE VI—SECTION I: This Association being formed for the purpose of appealing to the younger element of Stamp Collectors it has been determined to limit the ages of elective officers.

SECTION 2: No person under 18 years of age, or over 30 years of age, shall be eligible to hold an elective office, and if under 21 years he must have a guarantor or give bond for the proper performance of his duties.

SECTION 4: The Board of Directors shall be designated as the Board of Directors and shall consist of seven members.

SECTION 5: Each Director shall hold his office until the close of the next Annual Convention, and until his successor shall have qualified. At least five of their number shall be residents of different states. Three of the Directors shall serve as a Board

of Vice-presidents, and must reside within a radius of fifty miles, and in the case of the three Vice-presidents being from the same State or locality as another Director, the Vice-presidents will take precedence over the other candidate, even though he have a greater number of votes.

SECTION 6: Immediately after the annual election of Directors, they shall choose from their number a President, three Vice-presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and International Secretary, and appoint such officers and committees as are required by the Constitution to be appointed by the Board of Directors.

As will be seen from the above, nominations should be made for seven directors and all nominations should be sent to the Secretary prior to June 30, 1904, when nominations shall be declared closed.

To avoid future complications it is requested that in proposing names for office, the sanction of the proposed nominees be obtained before the nominations are filed.

W. H. BARNUM,
President.

CALL FOR CONVENTION.

To the Officers and Members, Stamp Collectors' Association:

By the power vested in me, I hereby issue a call for the first annual meeting of this Association to be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., on the eighth day of August, 1904, for the election of Directors and such other business as may come up at this time. Said meeting will be called at 10:30 a. m. and will continue until the business is concluded.

I have purposely made the call for the convention at this early date in the hope that a majority of the members will be able to so arrange matters that they may be present.

I have appointed Mr. J. C. Miller of Coal Valley, Pa., Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

W. H. BARNUM,
President.

Cleveland, O., April 15th, 1904.



Camera & News



Editor, F. J. CLVIE, San Francisco

THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF COLORS.

(By Joseph Edwards, Brockville, Ontario, Canada.)

A surprising recent discovery in color-photography, noted below, renders interesting the history of efforts in this direction. Such results have been obtained by various methods, but except in those of Gabriel Lippmann, the tints have always faded, either when the negatives were treated with the fixing bath or on exposure to light. As early as 1810, Dr. Seebeck of Jena and another German, Ritter, obtained traces of color by receiving the colored spectrum on a sensitive surface of silver chloride. Again, about 1840, Herschel, Daguerre and Fox Talbot, acting independently, obtained color indications. Herschel found "that the spectrum impressed on a paper spread with the chloride of silver is often beautifully tinted, giving, when the sunshine has been favorable, a range of colors, very nearly corresponding with the natural hues of the prismatic spectrum." Later, Robert Hunt had a certain measure of success in obtaining images of color as appears from a work: *Researches*. In a communication to the French Academy of Science, Prof. Lippmann writes that he undertook to obtain on a photographic plate the image of the spectrum with its colors, so that it would remain afterward fixed and be indefinitely exposed to full daylight without change. This he claimed to have achieved with the ordinary materials, modifying only

the merely physical conditions of the experiment.

The essential conditions for obtaining colors in photography are the continuity of the sensitive layers and the presence of a reflecting surface behind it. By continuity is meant the absence of granules, the silver bromides, iodides, etc., must be diffused uniformly within a film of albumen gelatine or some other transparent or inert material and without forming granules that are visible under the microscope.

The plate when dry is supported on a small tank of mercury, the mercury forming a reflecting surface in contact with the plate. The exposure, development and fixation are conducted in the ordinary way but the results are different. The proof obtained is negative by transmitted light, each color being represented by its complementary, but by reflected light it is positive and the colors appear quite brilliant. The image is strengthened by the use of acids; fixing and washing as usual, follows.

The theory of this experiment is simple. The incident light forming the image in the camera interferes with the light reflected by the mercury. This forms in the interior of the film a series of "fringes," i e, luminous maxima and minima. The former alone acting on the film; at the close of the operations they remain masked by deposits of silver more or less reflective, which occupy their place.

The sensitive layer is divided by the deposits into a series of thin laminae, the thickness of which is the interval which separates the maxima, i e, a half wave-length of the incident light. They therefore reproduce the incident wave-length by reflec-

tion, perfectly. The colors visible are the same as those on a soap-bubble, although more pure and brilliant if the operations have yielded a deposit that reflects well. In such a case there are formed a great number of superimposed slender films and the reflected colors are purer in proportion as these reflecting films are increased in number.

Having a Specialty.

Specialization in photography is one of the best methods for advancing in proficiency and may be put in practice by the novice as to good or better advantage than by the more experienced worker. The snap-shooter who takes views indiscriminately, now photographing a landscape, then a marine, next a portrait, and then something else, covering the whole gamut of photographic possibilities in a dozen or more consecutive exposures, is the dabbler, who will remain a novice as long as he continues to use the camera. That will probably not be for many years, as failing to learn thoroughly and to appreciate the magnificent possibilities in any one field, he will shortly become blase and will drop photography for some new fad. There is hardly a prominent amateur in the field today who has not realized this fact and devoted his energies almost wholly to one or another special line of work and all that has been achieved up to this time has been due to the earnest and intelligent efforts of men and women who, having started as the merest amateurs, have seen the possibilities before them and have developed their faculties along the lines which most interested and offered them the greatest fascination.

Trimming Prints to Advantage.

Go to your print envelope where you keep your proofs and select one at random. Take two pieces of card

board cut like a carpenter's square or at right angles, and lay them upon the print in such a way as to surround the picture, leaving an opening in the center. Now move the cards so as to increase or diminish this opening and subsequently the size of the portion of the print shown. By this method of experimental exclusion we are able to hit upon the true point of merit in the picture, it being brought out strongly by the removal from our range of vision of the balance of the picture, and the extent of trimming required becomes apparent at once.

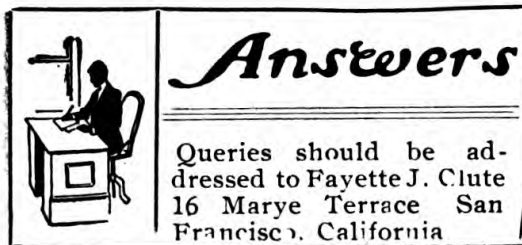
How to Wash Prints.

Many amateurs follow the instructions issued by the makers of printing-out papers, place their prints, before toning, in running water for fifteen minutes. The silver salts are immediately freed from the paper, when it is placed in the water, and if not poured off instantly they are re-absorbed by the gelatine, and the whites of the prints go yellow. If the free silver is not removed before toning it reacts with the gold bath and spoils it; therefore wash the prints quickly and thoroughly to free them from the silver salts.

Continuous washing in a circulating washer is a very bad way of removing the free silver salts from the paper, as the water certainly dissolves the silver out, but it is so long before it gets away from the washer, that it is again re-absorbed.

Let anyone add a teaspoonful of red ink to a washer and note how long it takes to become colorless; add the same to a dish of water, and in three changes the whole of the red is removed.

The free acid found in P. O. P. is often as high as $1\frac{1}{2}$ grains per half-plate print, and if not removed will be sufficient to turn a correctly made up toning bath into an acid one.



tail is liable to be lost. To retain light clouds in the print, for instance, a fair amount of copper must be added to the bath.

L. D. H.—Retouching Medium: An excellent retouching medium for negatives can be made by dissolving a small quantity of light colored shoe-maker's wax in gasoline and decanting the clear liquid a small quantity of this is added to some spirits of turpentine. Just enough to leave a slightly tacky surface after evaporating a drop on a piece of glass.

Another very good medium is made by adding a small quantity of damar varnish (procured at any paint store) to spirits of turpentine. Test with a piece of glass as above. Apply a small quantity of either of these to the part of the negative to be retouched and wipe off the surplus with a piece of muslin or your hand. I prefer the latter, as it is not so liable to leave lint adhering to the negative. These formulae will permit much heavy work on the negative, especially if a fairly soft graphite pencil is used.

C. R. W.—The Acetic Bath in the Ozotype Process: The sulphate of copper added to the bath should be regulated according to the negative. One minim of a 10 per cent solution to the ounce of bath is enough for thin negatives while strong brilliant ones demand three times this amount. By omitting the copper altogether, well-exposed prints from thin negatives may be made to yield prints with good contrasts. Paper that has been kept for some time after being sensitized also requires a smaller amount of copper in the bath. The less copper used the clearer will be the lights and the richer the shadows, but finer de-

B. L. O.—Red Tones—Red tones on printing out papers may be obtained by a little after treatment when the combined bath is used. When the desired tone is reached the print is transferred to bath of water, 10 ounces; carbonate of soda, 3 ounces. The print is then well washed and fixed in a 10 per cent hypo bath. L. P. Clerc gives the following method of obtaining red tones on lantern shades. The plate is slightly under developed, fixed and washed. The plate is then reversed and placed in a 10 per cent solution of sodium sulphite. The sulphite removes the yellowish cast and lends a pleasing red tone. After this operation the plate must be thoroughly washed.

L. B. B.—Print-Out or Developing: In regard to print-out papers, see also answer to K. E. B. The most commonly used papers in the glossy surface are Solio, Kloro, Puro and Aristo Junior. In regard to developing papers, I do not think you will find them any more difficult to handle than those of the printing-out class. They will give much more contrasty effects than printing-out papers, and another advantage with the developing papers is that they are made in several grades to be used as best suited to the different classes of negatives.

C. R. M.—Scolik's Intensifier—With correct exposure and development a negative does not require intensification, but in cases where the negative is weak from extreme exposure or improper development Scolik's method of intensification is simple and permanent. The negative to be strengthened must first be thoroughly washed

to free it from all trace of hypo and then immersed in mercury bichloride, 1 part; potassium bromide, 1 part; water, 50 parts, where it is left until the film is thoroughly and evenly white, after which it is rinsed and immersed in a mixture of equal parts of saturated solution of sodium sulphite and water and left until the white has entirely left the plate and the film is uniformly dark brown or black. It should then be thoroughly washed and dried as usual.

A Polish for Camera Woodwork.

One part of vinegar and three parts of raw linseed oil makes a fine polish to apply to the woodwork of your camera. What you have left over can be used on the furniture. It should be applied with a soft woolen cloth. One versed in the subject told me the other day that this same raw linseed oil with a mild acid added, was the basis of all the furniture polishes on the market, so you need not spend fifty cents or a dollar for a small bottle with a pretty label on it when you wish to brighten things up a little.

A Cheap Tray.

Cheap trays may be made from pieces of thick cardboard about two inches larger each way than the size of the tray desired. The corners are cut out, leaving one piece on each corner to form a lap. The edges of the cardboard are then bent up and the corners sewed or glued. The inside of the tray is then flowed with very hot melted wax. The hot wax is absorbed by the fibre of the board and forms a waterproof tray, which is also impervious to acids and many other chemicals. These trays are useful for a variety of odd purposes where it is not desirable to use the regular hard rubber trays.



INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE.

With which is Amalgamated the World-wide Photo-Exchange

Organized for the purpose of affording its members easy facilities for exchanging photographic prints, and for mutual improvement in the art. President, G. C. Kirkland, - Denver, Colo. Vice-President, A. T. Brown, Acton, Ont. Can Sec'y, Fayette J. Clute, - San Francisco, Cal. Yearly dues, including exchange notice and subscription to the monthly journal, "The International Photographic Exchange," 25 cents. All who subscribe for, or renew their subscription to the WEST, by sending 50c to Secretary Fayette J. Clute, Marye Terrace, San Francisco, Cal. will be allowed an exchange notice, and full membership in the I. P. E., and receive both publications for one year. Unless the above rule is complied with and subscriptions sent to the secretary, membership cannot be obtained without payment of regular dues.

Note.—W. W. P. E. and I. P. E. members are cautioned not to write these new members with out first consulting the regular "Exchange Notices" accompanying their names in the current issue of the "PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE" as many of them desire only a certain class of prints, lantern slides or stereoptic pictures, and will not honor requests in which such notices have been ignored.

The International Photographic Exchange.

701—Alice F. Sweasey, Talmage, Cal.

702—Ellis Chandlee, 104 W. Salem Ave., Roanoke, Va.

703—William C. Kater, 872 Ballou St., Chicago, Ill.

704—William Clow, Terryville, Conn.

705—A. Hill-Griffiths, 66 King St., Sydney, N. S. W., Australia.

706—Miss Minnie M. Hebard, Box 48, Williamstown, Vt.

707—R. W. Worden, 1333 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, O.

708—H. F. Mills, L. B. 1107, Penn Yan, N. Y.

709—J. W. Beam, 102 Cedar Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

710—Geo. Barclay, Palmerston, Otago, New Zealand.

711—Wm. McK. Ewart, 2524 Center Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

712—Myron E. Carley, Colfax, Wash.

- 713—J. H. Williams, Box 691, Calgary, Alberta, N. W. T., Canada.
- 714—Stanley Titus, Webatuck, N. Y.
- 715—Fred Titmas, Box 238, College Point, N. Y.
- 716—H. D. Webber, Selma, Cal.
- 717—Howard M. Rittenhouse, Beamsville, Ontario, Canada.
- 718—H. Needham, 32 Clinton Ave., West Hoboken, N. J.
- 719—Miss Lena Rice, Box 40, Dorchester, Iowa.
- 720—C. A. Goodeve, Acton, Ontario, Canada.
- 721—F. F. Fellows, McMinnville, Ore.
- 722—Wm. A. Bennett, Care Nat'l City Bank, Cleveland, Ohio.
- 723—Herman Bryant, South Gardiner, Maine.
- 724—T. L. Riley, 22 Fernwood St., E. Cleveland, Ohio.
- 725—Miss Belle Johnson, Box 2, Monroe City, Mo.
- 726—W. A. Bauer, 383 East High St. Springfield, Ohio.
- 727—A. Holt 627 N. Rockwell St., Chicago, Ill.
- 728—J. T. Diebels, 321 Turk St., San Francisco, Cal.
- 729—Edward Polasek, Metropolitan Camera Club, 100 and 102 West 101st St., New York, N. Y.
- 730—J. W. Gambele, 17 Nelson St., Oxford Road, Manchester, England.
- 731—Della Blough, Box 76, La Fayette, Ore.
- 732—Ernest R. Holmes, 32 Waverly Place, New York, N. Y.
- 733—Leigh Brown, 602 10th St., S. Fargo, N. Dak.
- 734—Dr. H. R. Kellogg, Woolworth Bldg., Lancaster, Pa.
- 735—Frank E. Edgington, 913 M St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
- 736—William D.ENZ, 237 E. 32nd St., Los Angeles, Cal.
- 737—William H. Phillips, Care Smith-Phillips China Co., East Liverpool, Ohio.
- 738—Martin MacCrackan, 125 Walnut St., Fitchburg, Mass.
- 739—Wharton Schooler, R. F. D., No. 2, Eolia, Mo.
- 740—Held for foreign member.
- 741—William Koch, 158 North Meyer St., Los Angeles, Cal.
- 742—Max Dobinofsky, 23 Garland St., Fitchburg, Mass.
- 743—Burgess A. Gibson, Washingtonville, Pa.
- 744—Frank L. Church, Hooker, N. Y.

Snow Scenes.

A correspondent desires to know the length of exposure required for snow scenes, especially during such a rare fall as that which occurred Christmas morning, and also what speed constitutes a snap shot and if there is a shutter faster than the one-hundredth of a second. Of course, the length of exposure required for snow scenes, like all other exposures, depends upon the character of the subject, the condition of the atmosphere and the time of day. At this time of the year four times the exposure is required at 9 a. m. and 3 p. m. as compared with noon, and for snow scenes three or four times the exposure is required on a cloudy day as compared with a bright sunlight. On Christmas morning the writer made several snow pictures at about 10 o'clock. The lens was used with an opening of f. 6.3 and an exposure of one-fortieth of a second was given. The negatives were clear and strong and the individual snowflakes were distinctly visible where they were

contrasted against dark objects. For ordinary snow scenes at noon on a sunny day, with the average lens at full opening, an exposure of from one-fiftieth to one-hundredth of a second ought to be about right. If the day is cloudy, from one-fifteenth to one-fiftieth should be given. Toward morning or evening and with a smaller stop, this time must be increased.

The terms "snapshot" and "instantaneous exposure" are very indefinite. In general exposure faster than one-

tenth of a second or even slower, may be called a snapshot. Of course, in reality every exposure is a time exposure. It is only a question of how much time. In practice any exposure requiring only one click of the shutter is called a snapshot.

Most shutters are not as fast as one one-hundredth of a second, but the focal plane pattern is often as fast as one one-thousandth, or even one two-thousandth of a second. This shutter works on the lack of the camera.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

Applications

Send your ideas how to help make the paper better and do more for members.

- 693 H C Jennings, Valentine, Neb.
- 694 F F Tomblin, Wilsonville, Neb.
- 695 J Herman, Milligan, Neb
- 696 Ada Watker, Omaha, 1417 19st
- 697 G Grey Kearney
- 698 F Segelke, Wilber
- 679 F Karlson, Mead
- 700 H Phillips, Glenville

New Members

688 J Haron, Moomaw, western views all kinds wish ex; 683 A Rickle Jaunito, 68s E Cresina Neb City, 685 K Rex Omaha 1310 6 st, 686 Magnuson Lexington, 687 G Stewart Nickerson, 688 J Jessup, Clay Center, 689 R Butler Omaha 2762 Webster st, 690 H H Parvey Ohioa, 692 J C Lindquiste bx 361 Wakefield.

Readers should send for catalogue of the Photo College ads in this number who are largest in U S Try them.

The Nebraska Photographers Association holds its annual meeting May 11 to 13th. We trust most of the members can attend.

Aduro! Development.

This very popular new developer is a compound of hydrokinone and metol, possessing the virtues of both

substances without their vices.

It acts very energetically, and may be used in concentrated form for under-exposed films, plates, or papers, and in greater dilution for time exposures, or whenever there is a chance of over-exposure.

The following formula has been proved by many experiments as the best we have used:

Dissolve in 10 ounces of water:

1. Potass Carb., 1½ ozs.
2. Soda sulphite, ¾ oz.
3. Aduro!, 60 grains.
4. Bromide, 10 grains.

This will keep for some time when made up, but it gradually loses strength.

It may also be used repeatedly, but it is most energetic when quite fresh.

An old developer should be used for uncertain exposures, and if the appearance of the image indicates under-exposure; a new developer can be supplied at once.

Attend Annual Meeting Nebraska Photographers Association May 10 to 13 '04



American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.
Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
ship card sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.

We want readers' ideas or suggestions how to help the amateurs
more and better. Send today if only a postal card.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 4879 W Steinger, Cripple Creek, Colo.
1021 W Bennett Av | 9 D Rees, Denver Colo, 1227, 15st |
| 4880 Mrs M Linson, Wadsworth Nev.
1 H Aubellan, Jr. Buffalo, N Y 88
Shumway | 4990 G Conley, Jonesboro, Tex
1 F Allen, St Petersburg, Fla
2 — L Bain, Plainview, Tenn
3 H Bassett, Tuscolo, Ill
4 J C Daly, U S Consul, Guelph,
Canada
5 G Crane, Checotah I T
6 G Holmes, Cottonwood Falls, Ks
7 F F Tomblin, Wilsonville Neb.
8 G Brown, Big Tails, Wyo
9 W King, Nashua, N H Bx 354 |
| 2 J. Roderburg, Hooper, Utah,
Weber Co
3 W A Fessenden, Bellaire Mich
4 Basch N Y City 219 E 89 st
5 M Murray, W Duluth, Minn 428
N 57 Ave
6 Miss H Babb, Hayetteville, Ark
*7 A Custer, St. Louis, Mo. 1203
Miss Ave
8 G Damm, Brooklyn N Y, 246
Stagg St
9 G W Kellogg, Rochester N Y.
110 Fulton Ave | 4910 E W Smith, Tonopah, Nev
1 J Carvalho, Norristown, P A
2 J Fairchild, Bryant, S D
3 R Russell, Alderson, W Va
4 Mary D Hopper, Patterson, N J
125 Halehon
5* Philocartista Porto Algre, Bra-
zil
6* L Whitehead, Cleveland O 1363
Scott St
7* H D Baldwin, Hampton, Iowa
8* S B Fish, Butler, Ill
9* Madame Espione, Cadames Dod-
ogne, France |
| 4890 J Duncan, Williamstown, Vic.
Australia
1 G Pope, Birngham, Ala
2 M Markle, Richmond, Ind
3 A Field, San Jose, Cal, 777 Dal-
mas
4 M F Mehta Galkissa, India
5 J Terry Seattle, Wash, Bx 1180
6 W Wendover, Red Creek N Y, R
R 3
7 L J Metzger, Toledo O. Bx 21
Sta A
8 E F Gardner, Springfield, Mo | 4920* Clark McIntosh, 54 Grace St
Hartford, Ct
1* R H Bley, Hamburg N Y
2* W Zuelke, Aguire Mert Co So-
nora Mexico
3* N S Sims, San Rafael, Cal, 614
4 st |
- * Exchange cards

- 4* A Taylor, 116, 116 Cochise, Rd, Gateshead
- 5* Henry Stanwood, Ellsworth, Me, Bx 352
- 6* F Williams, Phoenix, Ariz
- 7* J T Hamel, Roberval Quebec Canada Bx 33
- 8* B Hinman, Long Beach, bx 409 Calif
- 9 W Wright, Kingston, Jamaica
- 4930 L Brown, Seattle, Univ Sta Wash
- 1 J Herman, Milligan, Neb
- 2 B Wagner, LaBelle Mo
- 3 R Field' Stratford, Ct Bx 453
- 4 M Francis College, Sta Tex
- 5 D Flood, Knot, Idaho
- 6 T Smith Isabella Tenn Bx 106
- 7 Prof W T VanBuswirk, Peoria, Ill
- 8 J N Goodwill Metcalfe, Canada
- 9 H Wickman, Des Moines, Ia, 1135, 20 st
- 4940 W Clement, Newport, Ky, 612 Lexin
- 1 H V Jennings, Valentine, Neb
- 2 R Richard, Appleton, Wis
- 3 J Newton, Manchester, N.H.
- 4 C Freeman, Portland, Org
- 5 H Ahard, Westerly, R I
- 6 G Dixon, Watertown, S D
- 7 Miss L Fry, Fray, Va

Platinum Prints.

Platinum prints are supposed to be absolutely permanent and yet in time they are apt to turn yellow or at least become less brilliant than when first made. It is true that the image itself does not change as is the case with silver prints, but the paper support becomes yellow from the action of the iron or platinum salts which are left in the paper. If platinum prints which have thus deteriorated are immersed in a bath of hypo-chloric acid to which is added a little hydrochloric acid, the yellowishness is

at once removed and pure white high lights and brilliancy are restored. The prints should be washed to remove the hydrochloric acid and then treated with a weak solution of citrate of ammonia. The print is finally washed and dried as usual. By applying this process platinum prints may be kept clear and brilliant for any length of time. This method is especially useful for artists' proofs as the white borders discolor much quicker than a regular print.

PHOTOGRAPHING FLOWERS.

By W. H. Crocker.

June, the month of roses, affords most excellent opportunity for the amateur to practice a much-neglected branch of photography—photographing flowers. One may carelessly place a bunch of flowers in a vase, point the camera at it and make an exposure. That is one way, and sometimes one gets good results, but there is opportunity for much study, and display of artistic feeling in making pictures of flowers or of still life. Haphazard arrangement, or the crowding of too many flowers, or too many kinds into one picture should be avoided.

A spray or branch, well arranged is much better than a bouquet. And, again, it is not the cultivated flowers that always give the most satisfactory results. The daisies, dogwood blossoms, and many of the blossoms and wild flowers so common in the spring and summer, offer most beautiful subjects. Best results are to had with color-sensitive and non-halation plates. If you use a color screen as well, so much the better. Of course, the use of the screen materially lengthens the time of exposure; but as you will, no doubt, do this work indoors, away from wind or draughts, this makes no difference.

Development should be largely for half-tone; avoid excessive density. In exposing I believe it is more satisfactory to err on the side of over-exposure. The best background is a piece of black velveteen, or the rough Can-

ton flannels. Avoid any glossy background or one that throws a high light.

In arranging the leaves and flowers, fine black sewing silk is most valuable. This, fastened to stems and branches, admits of their being drawn into position to suit the artistic taste of the amateur, and will not show on the negative. Black pins may also be used for similar purposes.

While most workers in this field of photography place their subjects upright on some stand or table, the method found by the writer to be the best is to place the flowers in a horizontal position, preferably on the floor, where they can receive a good and properly diffused top light from a window. This necessitates a special stand for the camera, so that it may be pointed down, but this stand can be made in half an hour with such tools as one has usually to hand.

Take a board 8 inches wide and 42 inches long, five-eighths or three-quarters of an inch thick. Cut this in two, having one piece 18 inches long, the other 24 inches. Join the boards at right angles (the 8-inch way) with four stout screws, and to give additional strength and rigidity, fasten in the angle two iron shelf brackets readily procurable at any hardware store.

Down the center of the 2-foot-long end cut a slot to take the tripod screw. Two ordinary wood furniture clamps, such as cabinet makers use to hold glued parts, will answer to clamp this angular board to a table end or side, while the camera can be readily focused and pointed toward the floor when adjusted to the other board.

This method possesses the following advantages—the illumination can be easily controlled and the flowers better arranged and kept in place. Where it is necessary to lift the stems from the background, long black pins thrust through the tougher stems will hold them up in place. In conclusion, study the lighting carefully. Avoid any hard white light. A piece of unbleached cheese-cloth, hung near enough to the objects photographed, but not so near as to show on the field of the plate, makes a good diffuser.—Browning's Monthly.



Free Cameras at the Fair.

Six months ago the Editor of CAM-ERA NEWS wrote the officers of the several Postal Camera Clubs, State Amateur Associations and Photographic Exchanges asking that they prepare a petition addressed to the Department of Concessions, Louisiana Purchase Exposition, setting forth the desires of their members as nearly as could be ascertained. Such petitions to be signed by the officers of the several organizations and forwarded to me at the earliest opportunity. A later communication went to each one cautioning them that the free admission of 4x5 and other cameras, used without tripods, was all that could be asked.

A willingness to do all that was possible, a desire to further any project that might advance the possibility of an ultimate granting of a concession so dear to the hearts of the workers enrolled as members of these organizations, resulted in a most hearty and enthusiastic carrying out of the proposed plan with the result that practically every non-local organization of a permanent character was represented in the joint petition placed in my hands to be presented to the proper officials. The following officers of their respective organizations entered most enthusiastically into the work:

W. H. Monroe, Director Postal Camera Club, Leominster, Massachusetts.

H. R. Pfaff, Director Interstate Postal Camera Club, Jennings, Alabama.

Fayette J. Clute, Director "Overland," San Francisco, California.

Chas. E. Fairman, President Postal Photographic Club, Washington, D.C.

Geo. E. Moulthrop, Sec'y. American Historical Photo. Society, Bristol, Conn.

August Luft, Pres. Pan-American Camera Worker's League, Aspinwall, Pa.

Miss Lou Tillottson, Secretary Nebraska State Camera Club, Omaha, Nebraska.

L. S. Brodstone, Sec'y American Camera Club Exchange, Superior, Neb.

J. C. Kirkland, Pres. International Photographic Exchange, Denver, Col.

An aggregate membership of over twelve thousand being represented.

The next serious matter was the placing of the petition in the hands of the proper officials in such a way that it would be assured the attention that its importance merited. The name of Mr. H. C. Reiner, Secretary M. A. Seed Dry Plate Company, at once suggested itself. In Mr. Reiner's hands the matter was assured the most favorable presentation possible. The two following letters are self explanatory:

St. Louis, U. S. A. March 16, 1904.

MR. FAYETTE J. CLUTE,
San Francisco, Cal.

DEAR SIR:—

Yours of the 25th enclosing petitions from the various Camera Clubs, Photographic Exchanges, State Amateur Associations, and bearing the names of 12,000 photographic workers, was delivered to me by Mr. H. C. Reiner of this city a few days ago.

The petitions and your letter were given careful consideration at our last meeting, and were the only comprehensive documents of this nature that were presented to us.

I am pleased to say that this petition influenced us in our decision to admit the 4x5 and smaller cameras, to the Exposition free of charge.

I trust that our action in this matter will meet with the approval of the petitioners, that they will profit thereby and that the Exposition will receive the evidence of appreciation which these petitioners have promised to be-

stow in return.

Yours truly, NORRIS B GREGG,
Director or Concessions and Admissions.

St. Louis, Mo. March 16, 1904.
MR. FAYETTE J. CLUTE,
San Francisco, Cal.

DEAR MR. CLUTE:—Your letter of the 25th ultimo enclosing petitions of the several Postal Camera Clubs, Photographic Exchanges and the like reached me promptly, and I at once took up the matter with the Exposition officials.

There could be no action taken until a meeting of the officials, although I was promised by Mr. Wakefield Chief of the Department of Concessions, that all consideration would be given the matter.

I have just been advised that the desired concession has been granted, and am assured that your petitioners greatly influenced the decision.

With highest regards I remain,
Very truly yours,
H. C. REINER.

I desire to thank in this manner and with as much publicity as possible, the officers and members of the organizations who made this petition so effective by their enthusiastic co-operation. That they have the unqualified thanks of their brother workers it is needless to affirm. That the large body of camera users who will visit the Exposition will appreciate the concession made them by the Exposition people is also assured. That they will show their appreciation in a substantial manner is hoped. Let us remember that the results of this somewhat experimental action on the part of the St. Louis officials, from a financial point of view, will no doubt greatly influence the position taken by future Exposition managements. Both this thought and the desire to demonstrate the sincerity of their appreciation should assure consideration on the part of camera users, and encourage the purchase of all possible supplies within the grounds.

F. J. C,

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist.

The Curio Monthly and Photo-Exchange Bulletin

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 18000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Stamp Collectors Association, New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Union Souvenir Card Society, etc.

Vol. 27

JULY 1904

No. 2

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 2825 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marve Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Manchester, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT: C. A. NAST, Cor. 16 and Curtis, Denver.

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOCARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Manchester, Wis.

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas. Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk. Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 28 prominent societies. THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER. The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

"Now is the time" to get your Advertising in to get the Best Fall Buyers. The WEST is Represented at 20 Stands at the St. Louis Worlds Fair. It will pay Advertisers to try it. IT REACHES READERS NO OTHER MAGAZINE HAS.

EDITORIAL

If you go to the Fair, you can't miss the WEST as it is on sale at 20 stores in stands the grounds through the courtesy of Mr. Farran U Zerbe.

Mr. Zerbe, it is reported, is making a great success of the Exposition coin monopoly which he enjoys.

It is expected that the next number of the WEST reading matter will be "set" on our own typesetting machines. It is hoped that this will improve the typographical appearance materially.

This is convention time and at each convention will be found a special representative of the WEST. No collectors publication represents so many societies as does the WEST and it is safe to assume that these will choose to continue the WEST as official journal, the WEST alone being a sufficient to offer members in return for their membership fee.

We will inaugurate soon, perhaps in this very number, another new department. Although already somewhat departmentized, we feel that this addition will be welcomed heartily. It is a great innovation in stampdom, being nothing more or less than a woman's page. This will be conducted by Miss Verna W. Hanway, well known to the WEST readers as a versatile, entertaining writer, while the caption would seem to indicate that this page would more particularly interest the ladies, we doubt not that the gentlemen will read it attentively.

To the contestants in our recently closed writers' contest, we wish to say: Be patient. So popular was this contest that MSS., have arrived by the bushel and all these must be read and graded, a task of no small magnitude. We predict that our readers will be surprised when the

names of the prize winners are published, as the leaders were writers whose contributions were first attempts.

When you go to the Exposition, and perpetuate your visit by many snap-shots, remember that this was made possible by the untiring efforts of Mr. Clute, Camera News Editor. That the exposition officials decided to admit cameras to the grounds is due to the influence of Mr. Clute brought to bear.

A Stamp Button or Emblem

By F. E. HALBERT



Emblem gotten up by H. Letton, of Nebraska, now at U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis.

Agitation before organization. The button affair has been so thoroughly aired that the time is about passed for more agitation and now I offer the following suggestion for organization. Let each society of stamp collectors, in their annual convention, appoint a committee of say one member to each 100 in the society's membership. Said committee to have full power to act in the matter, the committee to agree on a date for a meeting with similar committees from other organizations to decide on designs, bids for making, and any other business that might come

up. Or the matter might be arranged by correspondence. Whatever the societies' representatives agree on, as a whole would naturally be accepted by the rank and file of the vast army of collectors. I think that the trouble with previous attempts in this line that collectors in general did not wish to adopt any thing until some of the societies had acted on the matter. When a design has officially been adopted I do not think but that plenty of collectors will be willing to put down 50 cents or a dollar for some thing fittingly representing their hobby. I hope that collectors will bring up this matter in their conventions and have it discussed at least. Large bodies move slowly, and it seems to me that this is a rather vast subject when viewed from all sides.

Fraternally speaking, a good button would be a great boom to our hobby. Personally, I never knew one single (or married) active collector of stamps until I began to purchase rare stamps. How did I discover them? By correspondence and various ways. Some of these collectors I found to be my near neighbors whom I had known for some time. Most people do not care to talk stamps to a non-collector, so we often miss a pleasant chat or valued business on account of not having on our coat lapels, a silent revealer of our favorite pastime.

A ROMANCE OF THE 12d. CANADA.

Among the many good stories told in Mr. Fred J. Melville's new book, "The A. B. C of Stamp Collecting," is one concerning the stamp "find" of a specimen of a the 12d. of Canada.

One of these stamps (he writes) is said to have been discovered in a remarkable way. A Canadian gentleman, living in a house facing the St. Lawrence River, had a packet of val-

uable documents which he was about to post. It bore a 12d. stamp and the packet lay in a small iron cash book in the gentleman's room. Before he had the opportunity of posting it, however, a man in desperate straits tried to wrest it from its owner, and in the struggle that ensued a lamp was overturned, setting the place in flames.. The intruder after firing at his antagonist, made good his escape. The other, grievously injured, managed to throw the box out of the window, and it fell, breaking through the thin sheet of ice on the surface of the river and sank. The next day the remains of the victim were discovered, but no trace could be found of the iron box and its contents.

That was in 1851, according to the story, which is a Canadian one. Forty-one years later, in 1892, one of the dredgers of the Montreal Harbor Commissioners was in operation in the river when one of the men in charge noticed the iron box. After making inquiries, he was able to deliver the documents to the heirs of the rightful owner. In their gratitude they presented the finder with a cheque and the cover of the package, which bore the 12d. stamp, by this time exceedingly scarce. The stamp, it is understood, was sold for about \$350.00

It has just been discovered that there is a nest of stamp forgers at Brighton, England, and the letters they are sending to collectors all over the United States are destined to net them many dollars. They are offering reprints of Romania, 1862, issue at a few cents per hundred, and Confederate States ten-cent blue of 1863 perforated and postmarked on the envelope. All of them are rank forgeries, and collectors receiving their circular letters should not be taken in by them.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the contents of those below, are requested to send a copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst gebeten ein Tauschexemplar regelmassig an den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont pries d'envoyer un exemplaire en echange a l'adresse sous-donnee.

Deseame recibir esemplares de cambio de las publicaciones filatelicas estranjers a la adresa enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149, Manchester, Wis, U S A

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* in No. 610 brings a condensation of an article on the earlier stamps of the French Colonies which originally appeared in *La Cote Reelel*. It contains much of value to the beginner, who is often puzzled by these issues, and I therefore quote as follows:

The decree of June 1858 created the Eagle type. M. P. J. Barre designed and engraved it: the crowned eagle with raised wings, as he also appeared on the minor coin of the Empire. The values appeared in July 1859: 10c yellowish brown and 40c red orange. In May 1862 two more values appeared: 1c olive green and 5c light green; but not until October 1865 was the set completed by the 20c blue and 80c carmine rose. The postmarks used on these stamps show the initials of the colonies as follows:

ASI—Assinie (later Guinea)
CCH—Cochinichine.
GAB—Gabon.
GOR—Goree (later Senegal).
GPE—Guadeloupe.
GNE—Guiane.
INDE—Inde.

MYE—Mayotte.

MQE—Martinique.

NCE—Nonvelle Caledonie.

NSB—Nossi Be.

OCE—Oceaine (or Tahti).

REN—or R—Reunion.

SEN—Senegambie.

SNG—Sengal.

SPM—St. Pierrel and Miquelon.

In 1871 a 30c stamp was issued, but instead of the Eagle type the 30c brown of France, Napoleon with aurel wreath, was issued, but imperforate. The 80c Eagle type was superseded in December 1871 by the imperforate 80c carmine rose of France. The same thing happened to the 5c; it was superseded in the same month by the 5c green Napoleon without wreath (Scott No. 8 under French Colonies), one of the scarcest of the French Colonials.

Beginners usually confound it with the French 5c imperforate of 1853 and unscrupulous dealers forge cancellations on the latter stamp to dupe their customers. Still it is impossible to do this with one who knows that the stamp as issued for the Colonies is decidedly dull green.

At the same time the 1c olive green Napoleon with wreath was issued.

The French issues of 1870-75, Liberty were issued imperforate for the colonies as follows: 10c light brown, 20c blue, 40c red orange, December 1871.

5c green, 15c bistre (small figures) 25c blue, 30c brown, Oct. 1, 1872.

1c olive green, 40c yellow, 80c carmine rose, 1873. 2c red brown, 4c gray, 10c brown on rose, 1876. 15c bistre (large figures) 1877.

Some of these, the 2 and 4c are scarce, as they were used but little; the 4c occurs only with cancellation Cochinchine. In any case collectors should be very cautious in buying im-

perforate copies of the 1871-81 issues. If they are unused, they are generally French stamps whose perforations have been clipped, or bleached essays. One should therefore buy only copies with wide margins. In the case of used stamps one can always tell by the postmark whether it is a stamp of the mother country or of the colonies. During this period date stamps were used in the colonies for cancellation; this postmark consists of two concentric circles, the outer one formed by a continuous line, the inner one by dots more or less closely together. The inner circle on the similar postmark used in France is formed by a line like the outer one."

I commend this test to beginners, for I know by personal inspection of many a beginner's collection how many clipped French stamps masquerade as colonials.

The Russian 3.50 and 7 rouble stamps, as you are aware, are pretty scarce used, as they are now used only on postal accounts. They are now to be issued to the public for use on valuable letters and thus will probably soon become cheaper used.

In No. 611 there is an interesting little article on the Norwegian 12 oere stamps of 1877 to 1884. I condense it as follows. The 12 oere value was first issued on January 1, 1877, in yellowish green to cover the single letter rate to Sweden and Denmark. In some offices it was used in this color up to 1884, the total issue was 3 millions. Near the end of 1883 the value was again printed, but this time like the other values then current with posthorn unshaded; the color, to prevent confusion with the 5 oere, was at the same time changed to a pale green. This printing consisted of only 214,800 stamps; many offices never received it and it was used only during the first half of 1884;

thus the high price of this stamp is easily explained. As the two green stamps, 5 oere and 12 oere, were nevertheless easily mistaken for each other, the 12 oere early in 1884 was changed to light brown; 2,779,900 were printed in this color, but only 374,900 issued as 12 oere, so that these are also somewhat scarce. The 12 oere in brown was used during the latter half of 1884; on January 1, 1885, the rate to Sweden was reduced to 10 oere and on the same date 1886 the rate to Denmark was similarly reduced, which ended the usefulness of the 12 oere. The remaining 2,405,000 were surcharged 2 oere early in 1888 and used up for a reduced local letter rate. Of the 12 oere brown there seem to have been two distinct printings; one is a light brown and comprised 1,279,900 stamps; the other is bistre and comprised 1,500,000 stamps. How many of each were afterwards surcharged is not known.

It is pleasing to see that most of the European papers have a good word for the Louisiana Purchase stamps. La Cote Reelle in No. 17-18 devotes nearly four pages to a description of the stamps and biographical notes of the statesman represented thereon. The plainness of their ornamentation rather pleases our French colleague and he does not omit to throw a brick at "our miserable French stamps."

In the continuation of the History of the French Post Office the presidency of Louis Napoleon is reached and an exceedingly interesting picture given in this installment; a reproduction of the original daguerreotype of Louis Napoleon from which Barre engraved the head for the stamps of the Presidency and later of the Empire. The frame of the

stamps of the Presidency, by the way, is not the same as that of the first issue of the Republic; it was entirely re-engraved, the pearled circle, for instance, having 77 pearls in the Liberty type, but only 88 in the Napoleon type. LaRevue Postale in No. 84 gives the following quantities printed of the late issues of Tolima and Cundinamarca:

Tolima. Cundinamarca.

4c green, perf.	90,000	1c	70,000
10c blue perf.	55,000	2c	60,000
10c blue, imperf.	15,000	3c	50,000
20c yellow, perf.	60,000	5c	40,000
20c rose, perf.	30,000	10c	30,000
50c yellowish, perf.	20,000	15c	25,000
1 peso brown, perf	30,000	20c	29,000
1 peso brown impf.	10,000	40c	18,000
1 peso light brown,			
perf.	25,000	50c	15,000
2 peso light brown			
perf.	10,000	1 peso	10,000
5 peso red perf.	18,000		
	10c registered	20,000	
5 peso red imperf	7,000		
10 peso blue, perf.	8,000		
10 peso light green, perf.	100,000		

All these stamps are on the new gold standard. The numbers are given on the authority of Sr. Focion Soto at Bogota.

Madrid Filatelico in No. 77 gives some particulars as to some imperforate specimens of the current Spanish 5 centimos stamp which have lately turned up. These seem to be real bona fide imperforates. Ten sheets (2000 stamps) in all were issued at the Cadiz post office and its substations without being held up by the officials; they bore on the back the sheet numbers 177,994 to 178,003, so that they cannot have been waste sheets, but were regularly issued.

It is interesting to learn that the American Consul at Cadiz succeeded in obtaining 500 of these stamps and promptly sent them for sale, some

where.

El Filatelico Espanol reports in its No. 44 the issue of a Spanish advertising postal card. Both sides are covered with advertisements, leaving only a space 120x105 mm. on either side for writing. The card bears a 15c stamp impressed in lilac, similar to the stamp of the official cards, but with smaller figures 15, the card also has the usual official numbering, so that it apparently must be considered an official issue. Its face value is 15 centimos, but it is sold for 5 centimos, the advertisements paying for the rest. No. 45 is chiefly devoted to fiscals, four pages being taken up by a continuation of the history of the playing card stamps of Spain.

A new issue for Turkey is contemplated; Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste reports that the new set is to contain 2½ and 10 piastre stamps in addition to those now composing the present set. It is also reported that France is negotiating with Great Britain for the cession of the Society archipelago to Great Britain and the cession in return to France of Tonga and some other islands in the vicinity of New Caledonia. This is the first intimation we have had of such dickerings.

A certain postal official (I happen to know him myself) reports to Sze-kula Briefmarken Verkehr (No. 42) that a new set of stamps is in preparation for Crete; he gives the following descriptions:

- 1 lepta: reproduction of an ancient coin.
- 2 lepta: Diana and 2 yoked lions.
- 5 lepta: ancient coin.
- 10 lepta: portrait of Prince George, different from the current one
- 20 lepta: Zens nursed by a bitch.
- 25 lepta: Triton.

50^{lepta}: head of Ariadne.

1 drachme: Europa and the steer.

3 drachmai: view of Kuossos, the ancient capital of Greece.

5 drachmai: not yet decided, but going to be something splendid, printed in 3 or 4 colors (gee whiz!)

The three high values are to be of oblong shape. Thus are we to contribute to the maintenance of this tiny principality.

Several of the European papers, I notice, are puzzled over a stamp which has lately turned up in numbers from various parts of Austria and probably soon make its appearance over here also. It bears in the centre a coat-of-arms showing a lion seemingly climbing a mountain, below this a small circle with a monogram resembling the letters I H O and in the four corners the figure 2. Our contemporary gives some information about this mysterious stamp. It is a private label used by the Poles of Austria for voluntary contributions to their National Fund. Its value is 2 heller and the letters of the monogram are not I H O, but the Russian letters F N standing for Fond Narodowyj--National Fund. Now you know what it is if you should happen to see one.

In No. 5 of the Schweizer Briefmarken-eitung there is a very amusing description of a visit to the post-office maintained by the Emir of Afghanistan at Peshawar, India. I wish space permitted the reproduction of the article. What chiefly concerns us here is the fact that at this office—one of the most important under the jurisdiction of the Emir, since it handles all correspondence to and from India—only two values of stamps were found on sale: 1 and 2 abasi: and the other fact that the 1 abasi was on sale in rose, but the 2 abasi in three colors: green, yellow and magenta. The rupee value thus

does not seem to be in extensive use. I see no current 2 abasi yellow in the catalogues and I wonder where all the various colors of the 1 abasi are used?

"The Art of Making 146 Varieties out of 2 Stamps" is the title of an article in No. 78 of *Le Timbrophile Belge* which describes the late surcharges of Guadeloupe, G & D on 1 franc and G & D on 1 fr 75c. The forms for these surcharges were altered no less than five times; five diagrams given with the article indicate the different settings. 48 principal varieties for the 40 1 fr. and 98 for the 1 fr. 75 is the result, but there may be still more owing to the use of different inks. I cordially endorse the concluding words of the author (Dr. Voisin):

"This suffices to prove the impossibility of collecting all these varieties and, I should say, the uselessness of so doing."

No. 236 of the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* reports that Portugal has also issued an advertising card similar to the one above described for Spain. Its arrangement is similar; it bears a 25 reis stamp of the current type impressed in red, but the value is in red also, not in black like the adhesive. These are already two issues; the first one bore the faulty inscription "Secreto de Correspondencia" (should be Segredo etc.); the second has "Correspondencia Secreta."

Some collectors are still ignorant of the reprint, associating it with the counterfeit. There is a genuine reprint and the ungenuine. The latter, whether a government or private production, is, of course, a counterfeit, but not the former. One of the greatest philatelists of this country, Mr. John N. Luff, has a collection of reprints for which he paid the magnificent sum of \$4,000.

Custom Duty on Stamps and Stamp Albums

By **CHARLES GRANDPIERRE**

The following facts and copies of documents may be interesting to some of your readers: Last year, coming to this country for a "trip," the writer of this left his valuable collection of stamps in safe keeping of a friend, but having decided to remain here at least to the end of the World's Fair, had it sent from England.

On the arrival of the package, I have sworn the required custom entry and declared "a collection of stamps, some of which hinged on an used stamp album, some affixed on loose leaves of plain paper" (the latter my specialized collection of Netherland.) I claimed, based on No. 670 Tariff law, the stamps to enter this country duty free. I declared the actual value of the album to be \$1.—.

To my great surprise, the appraiser assessed 25 per cent duty on the whole sending based on the following treasury decision No. 23039 " you are instructed to assess duty on certain 16 philatelic albums containing postage and fiscal stamps at 25 per cent ad valorem on the total value thereof, including the value of the stamps, under the provision of No. 403 Act of July 24, 1897 for all books of all kinds and printed matter not provided for."

Stamps or philatelic albums being distinctly mentioned in the law and tariffed at 35 per cent. I fail to understand the reason why the secretary of the treasury ordered that stamp albums, if it happened that they contain stamps, should be taxed as "books not provided for" although,

as I am explaining below it was probably correct to assess the duty on the value of the stamps as well as on the albums in the case mentioned in the decision.

Of course, I did not submit to the assessment of the appraiser and appealed to the general appraiser and later to the board of general appraisers in New York. I based the appeal on the facts that I am not a dealer in stamps nor in anything else, that the collection was my own property, some of the stamps being affixed on the album as a means to protect them, the album being a very old one and practically of no other value than that of a wrapper for my collection. That the assessment was under any consideration at least in part wrong, tho, for me, most valuable stamps not being at all affixed on the album, but on loose leaves of ordinary paper. I argued further that the decision referred to did not apply to my case because, according to my information, the "16 philatelic albums" were of the cheap foreign printing kind, which were, at one time, imported in large quantities and on which a number of valueless stamps were affixed as gratis premium to enable the dealer to obtain a better price for the albums. The entire tariff system of this country being protectionistic more than fiscal an extensive interpretation of the law in the case of the decision might have been justified, the 16 albums being apparently commercial articles. On the other hand a restrictive interpretation in the case of an used stamp album containing a private stamp collection seem according to the intentions of the legislator.

The board of general appraiser reversed the assessment and sustained my protest in the following terms: "The ordinary and customary manner

adopted by stamp collectors for preserving stamps is by pasting them in albums, as was done here. Congress seems to have placed no restriction as to the form they might be imported and as all that is of value in this importation is foreign postage stamps, the merchandise would seem to fall within No. 670. The value of the envelope (album) is insignificant as compared with that of the stamps and the cost of the articles renders them unsuitable for other use than to form part of a stamp collection. In the case under consideration the album is of no consequence or worth and the only value is in the stamps."

It is not expected that the general surveyor of customs will appeal against this decision. Thus foreign collectors coming to this country will, I hope, not have any more trouble with the custom authorities.

How to Make a Benzine Cup Without Cost 3

By GEO. VANDEVEER

A good benzine cup costs between twentyfive and forty cents. There is many a stamp collector who would like to have but cannot one afford it, or either he has the money but would like to spend it or something else.

But by following these directions you can make one without cost, in very little time, and no work.

First, get a common drinking glass (a thin glass is preferred as it will be better in every way). If you cannot get a whole glass, you might find one that is broken or cracked and no more fit for use, and if there is an inch of the glass left at the bottom it will do. Cut the glass off about an inch from the bottom. How to cut the glass—heat the glass, (put it the oven is the best way.) Be sure you

do not heat the glass too much or it will crack. Then take a piece of cord that has been soaked in water thoroughly. Pass the cord around the glass, and the hot glass coming in contact with the wet cord will crack the glass right where you put the cord.

Next take a piece of white paper. Cut out of this paper a circle a little larger than the bottom of the glass. Blacken this paper either with ink, lampblack or by smoking it, also blacken the bottom of the cup. Spread some glue or muscilage on the black side of the paper and stick it to the bottom of the cup. When dry turn the edges of the paper that protrude with a pair of scissors. Then you will have a watermark detector that will answer all purposes.

How to use—I guess almost every stamp collector knows how to use a benzine cup, but for the benefit of those who do not know how to use it, I will explain. Lay the stamp that you want to detect the mark in face downwards in the benzine cup and cover it with benzine and the watermark will show up in black with a lighter background. As for the benzine you can buy a considerable amount at the drug store for ten cents. Now any body following these directions carefully may make a watermark detector that he will be satisfied with. I hope every reader of the WEST that collects stamps may make one of these and may study his stamps and may find many new varieties for his collection.

(Go to the drug store and buy a 3 ounce amber ointment jar and you will have a watermark detector that can't be improved on—Editor.)

A London dealer advertises in an English paper: "Wanted — Great Britain watermark emblems. Price no object."

Hit and Miss Papers

By VERNA WESTON HANWAY

NO. III.—LOOKING FORWARD.

Philately is founded upon a rock. The part has been so universally successful that we are to be excused for saying that the future will be so. Philately, as it is now, appeals to the mental needs of a certain class of men and women. The question is, will it continue to do so? Upon this the future of philately depends in reality.

We are now at that stage in philately which comes to all nations and all pursuits ONCE in the history of the world—that stage which is the turning point of all careers. Philately has prospered amazingly in the last sixty years. Its very continuance for this length of time makes the acute mind delve into the misty future. Therefore we may be pardoned in spending a few moments trying to lift the veil.

Philately at this time is the most popular of hobbies, but like all else must advance with the world. Everything changes as the years go by. Who cares to read the style of magazines and journals so popular forty or fifty years ago? The style of literature has changed, so has all things. Take philately. Who cares to collect in the manner of fifty years ago? Who will collect in our present manner fifty years from now? Important innovations must be made to secure the future wellfare of philately. The purpose of this article is to show a few of them.

But for a moment we must remember that the future of philately in a large degree depends upon circumstances. Philately is the creation of circumstances, so may she decay.

For instance, if countries should for any reason cease issuing stamps philately would gradually decay. Collections would probably be saved as curiosities, and collecting would likely go on for some time, but as there would be no fresh supplies to stimulate collecting it would after a time cease. Other circumstances may also arise to bring about the decline of philately. However there are no signs of these circumstances, and we feel certain that there will not be any, at least for many years to come. Therefore we must turn ourselves to the material future of philately. As I said before there are innovations which must be made as the years roll onward; and if made will bring philately into a still more glorious future.

From a general survey of philately as it now exists, from a careful reading of the various magazines, from the condition of the societies etc., from which such things may be gleaned I have gathered the following nine suggestions which will make a strong, substantial platform to base the philately of the future.

I might have gone on for hours soliloquizing on the dreamy philately of the future, but I will content myself with the following. Bear in mind that these suggestions are far from complete, but if the new era of philately is founded on this basis it cannot help but prosper.

1. A reduction of the scope of general collections.—all watermarks, perforations, type, plate numbers, surcharge varieties, etc., etc. to be entirely avoided.
2. A normal catalogue with real prices, not prices dictated by dealers.
3. Exchanging and selling to be done at net prices—at market prices.
4. A cyclopedia of philately published expressly for general collectors

and sold at a reasonable price. Containing everything — definitions of terms, date of issues, descriptions of stamps, etc., etc.

5. A central exchange bureau under the management of the most important stamp societies, in which all collectors and dealers can do trading without risk. This bureau being prepared to furnish new issues at 10 per cent above face value.

6. A reference bureau which would be prepared to give information concerning philatelists for a nominal price. This would eliminate a large number of irresponsible people who prey upon dealer and collector alike.

7. An international philatelic emblem to be worn by all collectors.

8. Philatelic co-operation for better and more durable paper for stamps. This would give philately more durability.

9. Co-operation to gain the above.

The above needs no explanation. Anyone acquainted with the philatelic affairs of to-day can readily see that these various reforms cannot help but benefit philately immensely.

A great many more reforms would be beneficial. These few however possess the whole gist of the matter. These things will not come about at once, but I think the future will see the realization of my dreams.

Since the beginning of this year the *Revue Philatelique Francaise* has run a fiscal catalogue in installments.

It has so far dealt with the fiscal stamps of Germany and its states.

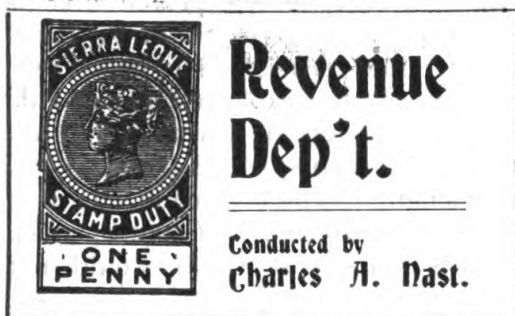
There is also a fiscal chronicle, so that all fiscalists would do well to subscribe to this paper.

Naturally its recent numbers are largely taken up by matter relative to

the *Catalogue Officiel* lately issued by the *Société Française de Timbrologie* (of which society the R. P. F. is organ). The criticisms have been uniformly very favorable to the new catalogue, though, of course, a first attempt like this leaves room for improvement. The catalogue has cost the society \$30,000! Of course, much of this is first cost which would not enter into the cost of future editions; but it is nevertheless clear that the society has undertaken a laudable task with little hope of reimbursement and all progressive collectors should hasten to buy a copy of the catalogue to aid in the good work—the catalogue will certainly prove a good investment.

Mr. Rundell of Melbourne at the end of an article in the *Australian Philatelist* advocating the collection of stamps on the original cover mentions a scheme adopted by him which others may find interesting and worthy of imitation: "Since the 1st of August 1899 I have on the first day of issue of a new stamp posted a letter with the new stamp affixed addressed to myself, thus, from that date, forming a complete history of the dates of issue of the stamps, and such a collection I claim to be of the highest historical interest."

Every year we hear the dealer complain less of the "dull summer season." There are many collectors who spend more time on their collections during the summer months than at any other time of the year. With a new issue of United States stamps to collect, a fine stamp exhibit at the World's Fair and the stamp societies getting ready to hold their annual conventions this sure certainly looks lively enough for any collector.



I hear that Geo. Carter of Brooklyn is very busy getting out his match and medicine album. As I understand it this work will also contain a catalogue of all known varieties. As is perhaps not so well known by collectors generally our present catalogue is not complete by any means. Persons having undoubted specimens of revenues of unlisted varieties have tried in vain to have them enumerated. Whether this refusal to include them arose from interested motives or not I cannot say. Doubtless they would be listed and priced if the cataloguers owned them. In our new book we hope to see such additions noted.

Another matter which was some of much deliberation was the question of including revenues of the general issues. At one time the promoter thought since these were included now in the National and International they might be ignored. I think however that would be a very great mistake. Everyone collects M & M also collects the general issues, but there are many who collect the latter and have no interest in Match and Medicine simply because their albums had no "places" for them. By all means include the regulars beginning with the 1ct Express of 1861 and ending with the \$50.00 Green and Black of 1902.

Lately I have been giving much time to proofs of revenues. Nothing can equal such a collection for rich-

ness of color, beauty of imprint and real intrinsic value. Proofs are still very cheap, but I believe with J. W. Scott that their time is coming and the U. S. specialist will in the future want to include these in his collection. As Mr. Scott says postage stamps may and have been counterfeited but the counterfeiting of a fine proof impression is an impossibility. As a rule proofs of postage stamps are printed approximately in the colors of the originals only, the same may be said of the departments. I say approximately because for some reason unknown to me they never exactly match the originals as to color. I think I may safely say this is not the case nearly so often with revenues and especially the proofs of the proprietary stamps and for this reason. Proofs of postage and department stamps were often printed after their use as current stamps, whereas with the private proprietary stamps it was just the reverse. Proofs of dies were submitted often in two, three and four different colors but they were sent for approval printed in the identical inks which the contractors were using at that time. Hence while we may have proofs of the same stamp in various colors the one which was finally adopted will on examination prove to be printed in exactly the same ink as that used for the stamps proper. This I think is a very great and important fact to be considered in fixing the status of private revenue proofs.

One of the most interesting proofs in my possession is the 30c Inland revenue 1861 printed in red exactly like the 25c Insurance. As the stamps are exactly similar except for the wording of the denomination I fancy it is an error as the color given in the catalog is lilac.

Who can tell me anything about the following stamp? • I can find no trace of it in any catalog or book of reference at hand. It is a proof printed in black ink on India paper and is about the size of the 1c black of Seabury and Johnson "Good Samaritan" stamp. It has no picture but in the center we have this in seven curved lines.

"Dr. Hoofland's

German Bitters

Prepared

by

Dr. C. M. Jackson

Philadelphia."

On the left side "U. S. Internal Reveune 4 cents" and on the right side "C. M. Evans, Phila. 4. Proprietor" I found it in a lot of proofs I procured some time ago. I am satisfied the die and stamp were made by the Government and I suspect it is one of the dies made and submitted but never used on account of the repeal of the law, still I find it in no list of that kind and would like my readers to assist me. According to the rule of listing it should come under the head of Evans as that name is given as Proprietor.

Lately there passed through my hands a dozen copies of the 1c blue W. C. Doolittle priced at \$10.00. Everyone of them had been clipped with the scissors, instead of having been torn apart at the perforation. As an eighth of an inch was missing from the end of each stamp making it absolutely valueless, I dropped a tear on the lot, and sent them back. It was a great "find."

"CANAL ZONE" STAMPS.

By Arthur Erwin Smith.

The newspapers of June 24th tell us that "a postal service in the canal zone will be inaugurated tomorrow.

Nine offices have been established. Mails from the zone to the United States and vica versa will be carried at the domestic rates of the United States and, until a supply of American stamps are received, Gov. Davis has arranged with the Republic of Panama to use Panama stamps with the words "canal zone" printed on them.

Arrangements have been made also with the Panama authorities to receive and forward Central and South American and West Indian mail. As soon as it is practical to do so, registered letter and money order offices will be established."

The stamps that are listed in the catalogue for the Island of Formosa were never used for postal purposes. They were issued with the idea of so using them, but were afterward used as railroad tickets. The "reissue" stamps of France were good for postage when they were issued, and, therefore, are not to be spoken of as reprints. They are readily distinguished from the originals in some cases, but all can be told by comparison. Lithographed stamps differ from those that are engraved in that they are smooth, the ink of the printing appearing level with the paper, as in the case of any surface printed stamps.

A correspondent calls attention to the fact that philately is receiving attention in schoolbooks. He writes: "I recently noticed in West's 'Modern History' a cut of the first English penny stamp, and under it the inscription: 'This is the first adhesive penny postage stamp ever used. The design was used without change for thirty years, from 1840 to 1870.'"

Woman Collectors Page

Devoted to the Interests
of the Woman Collector
Conducted by Verna Weston Hanway
Box 156, Dallas, Pa.

1. A Chat with the Woman Collector.

Mr. Brodstone has suggested my conducting a department for the woman collector and has given me this space for that purpose. At first I was somewhat in doubt, as such a column as this is somewhat of an innovation, but after due consideration light dawned upon my brain and I saw that it could in time be made a column of material interest to all active women collectors.

Perhaps some will, like a collecting friend of mine, wonder "Why under the sun is such a department needed? Surely the journals for collectors are as much for the women as for the men." This is true, still items of interest to the woman when gathered and put into a column cannot fail to be of great use and interest. This column will for a time, as is the case with all new ventures, labor under material difficulties. But in time I hope it will develop into a useful aid, and fill the niche for which it is intended. I have not decided as yet how I shall conduct this page but I will promise you that I will strive to make it better and more interesting each succeeding month.

However nothing can be done without co-operation. Therefore I solicit the aid of all women readers of the WEST. No matter what your hobby send me little notes of interest, news of new discoveries, sketches of your collections, what collecting has done for you, in fact everything which will help to make this column more interesting and valuable to your sisters.

For this month I shall content myself with giving a few random notes

which I hope will prove of value. Before the copy for the next month's issue is ready I hope to be able to collect much more of interest and to have received help and suggestions from my sister collectors.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

To those coin collectors who are interested in the coins and paper money of the United States it may be interesting to know that among the most valued employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing those women who attend to the details of the engraving of money dies hold high rank.

There are about 3000 persons employed in the bureau. Of the 3000 employees full 75 per cent are women. The character of much of the work is peculiarly adapted to women. Each printer has a woman assistant. She is equally responsible with the man for the security of their point work. They are a bright and intelligent class of women.

I recently received, to my great delight, an autographed copy of a work by John Frederic Herbin, B. A. The book, the "Grand-Pre" is extremely interesting to collectors although intended as a history of the Acadians. It gives a variety of information concerning the Micmac Indians, their traditions and relics, also an interesting description of the minerals found in Nova Scotia.

Mr. Herbin is the only descendant of the exiled people now living in Grand Pre the home of the Acadians. He has gathered a collection of Acadian and Indian relics second to none in all America. This collection is a source of great delight to tourists being, one of the "sights" of the Grand-Pre.

In the private library of the late pope there are hundreds of costly and beautifully bound books which were sent to him by admirers in all civil-

ized countries. Pope Pinus has decided to remove to the vatican library those among them which are really valuable and to distribute the others among the various Catholic colleges in Rome. The vatican possesses one of the finest collections of books in the world. The addition of Pope Leo's private library will easily make it the finest. One of the books which will be carefully treasured is the breviary which Leo XIII used for many years.

Carrie B. Freeborough in the May number of this magazine has a very interesting article on collecting. She says, "for weeks at a time I have scant opportunity to even look at a stamp, but when I do I forget the ironing and bread to bake and all other worries long enough to rest my tired feet and worried brain so when I do 'take up the burden of life again' I am better able to get through quickly with the day's tasks."

Have you ever thought of collecting in this light my friends? As a rest for the brain that is tired and wearied with the ills that human flesh is heir to. To those who are weary and worn out with the petty details of housework, or the troubles and tribulations of a business career, the best advice is, to "get a hobby!" You women who have tried collecting look up the May number of your magazine and show to some weary friend Carrie B. Freeborough's article. Always advise your non collecting friends to get a hobby. As Kate Masterson says in Munseys for May Never drop your chosen hobby; ventilate your fad;

Literature—society—religion—have it bad!

Really you can manage without character or clothes,

But you mustn't try to get along without your pose.

Personal Reminiscences

By J. M. BROOKS

It was during the latter part period when the Stamps of 1873 were current that I began to collect them but only in a small way. I was then a small boy of scarcely 7 or 8 years of age, and when I had searched the closets and turned the house topsy turvy. and had secured the current stamps up to 15c and had by accident came across a few obsolete specimens of the previous issues I felt that I had a priceless collection of gems.

Just why I began to collect stamps I can never say but suppose that it was in answer to an inborn inclination in that direction that yearned to be satisfied in some way. My field for search was small my parents being poor people who had cast their lot on the open prairie in the West, when all the western world was new and their lot was one of labor, struggle and privation and even a letter from their former home was a luxury. After I had looked over all of the correspondence my parents had and had carefully removed the stamp I supposed that I had specimens of each stamp ever issued by our country. My collecting for many years thereafter consisted in saving all the stamps that came to our home and I well remember how my heart beat with joy as I beheld new stamps appearing from time to time as they were issued, I remember how one day I hailed with delight the possession of a 3c Canadian that came our way. This was my first foreign stamp. No changes occurred nor did my knowledge increase to any great extent until one day, many years after I began collecting, I noticed an advertisement in the Youth's Companion, where a party offered 100 varieties of Foreign stamps for 10c. It is needless to say

that in less than a week my purse was minus 10c and my collection richer by 100 varieties. of course the usual price list accompanied the packet and it was not till then that it dawned me that other countries had a postal system and that they also had postage stamps.

Not long after that while looking over the pages of a copy of the *Youths' Companion* I read an advertisement where a copy of a stamp paper was given the purchaser of a packet of Peruvian stamps. This I took advantage of and was the first stamp paper I ever saw nor did I know of the existence of such a thing previous to this. It was a copy of *Mekeel's Philatelic Journal of America*. I have that copy yet and will keep it as a memento. It taught me many things, I found out for the first time that there were such things as rarities among stamps, that there were hundreds of people who collected stamps, that there were people whose business was to deal in them, that there was a "Standard" price on each and every stamp, that there were albums designed for their reception, and that there were hinges made for their attachment. All this and many other things placed me in a new world philatelically.

That was the beginning of my career as a full fledged collector.

Since then I have had many experiences in stamp collecting, some unpleasant but mostly pleasant. I have had the "Foreign Correspondent" craze that soon takes a hold of an exchange enthusiast. I have placed a great many consignments of my precious duplicates in the care of the U. S. mail after investing a five cent piece for a stamp and never heard from it afterwards, alas, but too late. Yet in all my exchange relations have on the whole, been plea-

sant and I have made many friends, among my correspondents, whom I have never seen.

My zeal in collecting is as great as ever, I have "quit collecting" so many times and found myself again collecting that I have quit "quit collecting" and am more than ever impressed with the truthfulness of the old statement, "once a collector always a collector."

At present I feel like that, with all the means and time I have expended on my hobby, I have been amply repaid one hundred fold in the enjoyment of the pursuit, and I still hail with delight the addition of a new specimen to my collection just as much now as I did when I added my first Foreign stamp to my collection of about 25 varieties, which specimens was a plain 3c Canada. These are a few of my experiences as a stamp collector, that I recall with pleasure and I sincerely trust that my Philatelic experiences in the future will be as pleasant as they have been in the past.

The issues of the French colonies which were made many years ago are now considered very desirable. The reason for this seems to lie in the fact that, when issued, these colonial surcharges were despised by nearly all collectors, so that very few of them were purchased compared with the number of collectors who now desire them. The scarcer stamps have found their way for the most part into collections, and the same brittle quality of paper which has been referred to in connection with the early issues of the United States has caused many of the more common specimens of these French colonial stamps to be injured to such an extent as to make them undesirable for the album.

Why I Collect Stamps.

BY FRED BRISTOL.

There are lots of people who say, "Why collecting stamps is foolish, what good will it ever do you." These are people who don't know and they are the people who ought to know more about the world than they already do.

There are a great many reasons why I collect stamps. There is so much to learn and then as the new stamps are issued there is still more to learn.

In getting the different stamps from the different countries, a person soon learns to what countries the small colonies belong. In studying the little memorandum at the top of the page in the album, one learns of the government, name of the ruler and the standard coin.

Stamp collecting is a new study of geography and it is also a kind of history. It tells when colonies or islands were annexed, bought, or were given up by other countries in war.

In geography, maybe you will find an island and its name only, while in collecting stamps, this island is not slighted in the least. Of the very small islands and colonies, their stamps seem to be more in demand than the stamps of the larger countries, and these are studied as much, and sometimes more than the stamps of countries that are so common.

When I first started to collect stamps I thought I would keep it up just for the winter, but after the winter was over, I found it so fascinating that I could not give it up. I like to sit by the hour and look over stamps, it seems as if I never could get tired. The different colonies that were never heard of in Geography, were never heard of by me until I commenced to collect

stamps.

Then there are the denominations that are placed in the different places: some in the corners some in the center: some in one of the upper corners and some in the lower corners.

When I first started to collect I did not detect the smaller and minor details, or the secret marks that are on or in the stamp, until my attention was called to them. Then I began to study them more and more, and am now able to see at once, the details, which at first took quite a little while.

In all, I think that stamp collecting is a pure, wholesome pleasure and cannot be beat out by all the things those people do, who say, "Why stamp collecting is foolish".

Most Turkish stamps bear a device which is called the "Toughra" or signature of the Sultan. It originated with a former Sultan who was unable to write. He signed his decrees by dipping his fingers in the ink and placing them on documents—three fingers close together with the little finger and the thumb extended. In the course of time this was elaborated and arranged to form a written phrase while preserving its general appearance, and was adopted as the conventional signatures of the Sultan. The Toughra reads, "His Majesty Abdul Hamid, Son of Mejid, may be always victorious." The small inscription at the side reads "el ghazi," the victorious.

And No Insurance.

The Perforator.

Major J. M. T. Aartello, now of the United States army and an ardent philatelist has told in one of his interesting articles on "How I Became a Stamp Collector," of how, when but a lad and in Richmond at the time of its surrender, he saw large quantities of Confederate stamps burned by the invading soldiers and was able to rescue but a paltry half dozen or so.

Notes From Europe

By J C AUF DER HEIDE

I suppose few of the readers of the WEST know the different perforations that exist in the Holland issue of 1872, kings lead. Among the most common stamps many a treasure may be found. These stamps when lightly cancelled and well centered are very pretty and obtainable at a little cost.

The oldest perforation was that with little holes, more known under the name of "pin perforated." In this perforation 13 fat 14 most 13½ exist the following values.

- 5c ultramarine.
- 10 rose.
- 15 orange brown.
- 20 yellow green.
- 25 purple.
- 2 Gulden 50c rose and ultramarine.

This was the first edition, followed by one perforated with large holes, perforated 14, consisted only of 3 values:

- 12½c gray.
- 25c purple.
- 50c bistre

The third issue was perforated 13½ with large holes, and comprised the following values:

- 5c ultramarine.
- 5c bright ultramarine.
- 5c dull ultraine.
- 10c pale rose
- 10c deep rose.
- 12½c pale grey.
- 12½ green gray 12½c gray.
- 15c orange brown.
- 15c pale orange brown.
- 15c dark orange brown.
- 20c pale green.
- 20c green
- 20c dark green.
- 20c yellow green.
- 25c purple.

- 25c red purple.
- 25c violet.
- 50c bistre.
- 50c pale bistre.

The most common is the next, perforated 12½x12, in which perforation also appeared the 7½c, the 22½c and Gulden purple, all these values edited in 1888. The edition, perforated 12½x12 consists of all the above named values and color differences, although the the pale colors do come after to hand. This edition was followed by one, perforated 12½x12½ comprising only the values of 5, 10, 12½, 15, 20, 22½, 25 and 50 cents.

The variety, perforated 11x12 is rare, especially is unused state, and cannot be had at almost any price. In this perforation have been issued the following values.

- 5c, ultramarine.
- 10c rose.
- 12c gray.
- 15c orange brown.
- 20c yellow green.
- 25c purple.

Most of the values, perforated 11½x12 are printed with pale colors. There also exist ALL values perforated 12x12 and 11½x12½ and 13x13, there are however varieties. The many so-called errors in colors etc., are proofs.

Same may be said to be of the unperforated varieties as sold from Berlin.

A collection of all these perforation varieties is very pretty as most of the stamps can be had, at a price from 1c to no more than 20c American, each.

I received the 1 and 2c of the Louisiana Exhibition series, which are beautifully engraved. I think many new collections will be started by these nice stamps.

Stamp business is prospering in this country and will grow better,

when the duty on stamps 5 per cent will be withdrawn. A new law is made by which this is proposed.

I have received page 1—352 of the new fiscal catalogue issued by Mrs. Yoert Tellier Amiens and edited by Mr. Forin L. Hoste. I have glanced over the different pages and saw that, judging from the price therein, I with my stock of fiscals, was a millionaire much richer than ever one who has lived in Europe or in America.

Next I will tell readers of the WEST something about this catalogue.

Philately From a Psychological Standpoint

By CRAG

A knowledge of the lines that convey ideas excels the intuition of wisdom. A philatelic environment is widely calculated to foster and create the essentials of taste and refinement, culture and erudition. The elements of distinction and success of the worthy and stable are intensified and well cultivated by the fellowship of the philatelic brotherhood. For the lonely and silent here's a charm. For the weary of common boredoms of life here is a new world. It has been well stated that commendable mental growth is dependent on upon external. Various pursuits of man create their types of character. The creators of actual wealth are not to be condemned and the preservers of their history are to be approved. Advancing civilization is destructive of tradition and history. The phone message and wireless communication are lost in empty sound, but the memory of an age and idea, friends and typical thought some of the best

that men have conceived and given their fellows is preserved in the philatelists album. In a degree the student of stamps is a successful striver in the field of the ethics of culture, the philosophy of history, the science of classification, and hence, a rival to the metaphysician of the hour.

All the French and Belgian papers have a grievance to air these days. The cause of their indignation is found in the last issued part of the new edition of the great French dictionary, Larousse's, corresponding somewhat to our Century or Standard Dictionaries. This authority treats our noble pursuit in this harrowing fashion:

"PHILATELISM (from Greek "philos, friend, and ateleia, franking) "n. m.: research on postage stamps; "the mania for collecting them. Al- "so called Philately."

Of course all our French brethren raise loud wails of indignation at being described as maniacs. This all the more as M. Maury relates in No. 275 of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* how he sent to the editorial staff of the said dictionary a proper definition of the word "philately" accompanied by various examples of its use; but his contribution was treated with contumely and treated consigned to the waste-basket. Our dictionaries, thanks be, are better informed; if I remember right, the definition in the Century Dictionary, for instance, was forwarded by C. H. Mekeel.

Last year 423 pounds of mail matter was carried to Tahiti from this country. The sum which the government paid for transporting each pound of mail matter was \$6.50

Washington Notes

By C. M.

The volume of proceedings of the 16th annual meeting of the Economic Entomologists which can be obtained by application to the Department of Agriculture is a volume of 113 pages full of interesting notes.

Another interesting volume to collectors of curios books is a reproduction in facsimile of the famous "Jefferson Bible" a paradigm of Jesus' doctrines made by cutting the texts out of the books and arranging them in a blank book in order of time or subject: it eliminates all miracles and gives only such texts as have a basis in history. May 1, 1902 Congress authorized the photolithographing of this work, 3000 copies for distribution by the members of the Senate and 6,000 by members of the House of Representatives, and these are now ready for delivery.

In accordance with the present policy of saving from vandalism and destruction the evidences of the old civilizations in this country the Secretary of the Interior has withdrawn from entry 32,000 acres of land in Colorado, pending the action of Congress of the Lodge bill mentioned in last months notes. The tract includes within its borders the great lime stone cliffs where the ancient cliff dwellers made their homes, the remains of which can be seen. The withdrawal was made at the request of a number of prominent citizens of the West, through a committee formed for the purpose of providing for the preservation of these curious specimens.

The privileges enjoyed by rural carriers in soliciting outside business to add to their salaries have been materially restricted by an order of the Postmaster General carrying out an

act of Congress passed recently. The principal provisions are as follows:— That rural carriers are not permitted to solicit business or receive orders of any kind for any person, firm or corporation.

No mailable matter may be handled by rural carriers while serving their routes, unless the proper postage has been prepaid, with the single exception of county newspapers, which, under the law, are permitted to be carried free throughout the county in which they are published, to actual subscribers, and such newspapers addressed to subscribers, residents on rural routes, must be deposited at the postoffice the same as papers for other subscribers.

The hire for merchandise carried on request of the patron of rural free delivery must be paid by the patron. Carriers will not be permitted to receive any compensation from the seller of such merchandise.

Articles or packages which are not mailable, which are handed to the carrier or deposited in the postoffice or in a rural letter box or in a collection box located on a rural route, with request that the rural carrier deliver the same are subject to the rules regulating mail matter, including the payment of postage thereon.

Articles or packages, that are not mailable, which the patron desires the rural carrier to carry must be delivered to the carrier in person, and in carrying merchandise for hire rural carriers are not permitted to leave their routes as officially laid out or to accept anything that will in any way delay the delivery of mail, or in any way interfere with the efficiency of the service.

Carriers, while on duty, are not permitted to carry spirituous liquors either for themselves, for sale, or for the accommodation of their patrons.

Rural carriers are required to permit postoffice inspectors, or other duly accredited agents of the Post Office Department, to accompany them on their regular trips over their routes. They must not carry other passengers nor permit any person, other than authorized postal officials, to ride with them or to have access to the mails.

Rural carriers must not engage in any business during their prescribed hours of service, or conduct any business after hours which offers the temptation to solicit patronage on their routes, or which, by reason of their position in the government service, gives them special advantage over competitors, such as book canvassing, soliciting insurance, selling sewing machines, or other kindred occupations.

Carriers must not, either in person or through others, directly or indirectly, by any method whatever, solicit money, gifts or presents; nor issue, for profit, souvenirs or postal handbooks; nor cooperate with or assist the publishers of same to secure the patronage of the public; nor compile directories for public use or assist publishers to compile them; nor furnish the names and addresses of patrons of their routes, for pay or favor, to any business establishment, or to any individual, except to those departmental officers who, under the regulations, are entitled to the same.

Mexican Revenues

By R. KRAUSE, Durango, Mexico

Referring to the Notes on Mexican Fiscals in Number 1, June 1904, I beg to render the following information: The surcharge on Documentary and other revenue stamps indi-

cates the place where they have been sold and the stamps with the surcharge of San Juan del Rio, for instance cannot be used in Lerdo where the stamps sold are surcharged with C. Lerdo. On many revenues are two surcharges. This is to be explained in the following way: For instance the Administrator of Revenues in Durango City has sold all his stamps surcharged DURANGO and when from one of the smaller towns a request comes to him for stamps he sends such with surcharge DURANGO, but they are then surcharged with the name of the place where they are finally sold, nearly all stamps used in San Dimas, a mining town in the state of Durango have the surcharges Durango and underneath San Dimas.

Now regarding the collection of Talonarios without the talon. I consider the talon an absolutely necessary part of the stamp, they are sold this way and are of no value whatever when the talon is not attached to the stamp. They are used entire on documents of any description and when used on invoices the upper part of the stamp is fixed to the invoice and the talon on the stub where a copy of the invoice is kept. The talon in itself is absolutely worthless when not attached to the main body of the stamps. You may compare the talonario without the talon to a reply postal without the reply attached.

Now regarding the Durango State Stamps. The word "inutilizado" means to indicate "made useless" viz., they cannot be used on any document. The reason is the following: The printer Miguel u Gomez sold the remainder of these stamps in full sheets to a gentleman of the name of Juan de Dois Avalos and as it is against the law to keep unused

stamps (revenues of course only) he had to run the sheets through the press surcharging them with "inutilizado" There are many varieties and errors in the surcharges and ample field for specializing in these stamps. In a later article I shall give a complete list of all the varieties in these interesting stamps regarding perforations, surcharges, etc. etc.

Personal Reminiscences

◀ By HERBERT S. STORRS ▶

Without doubt nearly all readers of philatelic magazines have read divers articles by old-time collectors of the days before 1870 or 1880, when stamps now catalogued ten, twenty-five and forty dollars were floating around loose and could be picked up with little trouble, or at a trifling cost; and while everybody likes to read such stories, I hesitate to add another to the already long list.

My natural hesitation in this matter can perhaps be best explained, by stating that I began to collect stamps in 1895, at the age of ten, in conjunction with my brother, who was then seven years old.

I suppose my latent interest in things philatelic was first aroused upon being shown a valuable collection made before 1880 and pasted flat in an old fashioned album. This collection was made, while traveling in America, England and Europe, by my friend's father.

Well, after seeing this fine display there was no rest for father until he had procured for us, at some downtown bookstore, a cheap album to hold about 3000 varieties. Our first stamps were some of the common Columbian Exposition, together with the issue current at that time, and

a few foreign obtained through the kindness of friends; soon my brother and I in partnership were able to announce, that we had one hundred different.

About that time a gentleman gave us a fine lot of entire British and Indian envelopes, which of course were promptly cut out round, to shape, to fit the illustrations in our album. Of what use all that extra border of white paper? What we wanted was the stamp itself, to be sure.

After these had been duly installed in our album, we got word that one of the city National Banks was burning up about "steens wagon loads" according to our excited informant, of old correspondence, checks and papers that had been accumulating for twenty years. It is needless to say that we were soon on the scene of the burning, securing a lot of good old entires and revenues to add to that rapidly growing collection.

Then, we began to visit the big office buildings and places which got a foreign mail, and soon came the terrible discovery that we had stamps for which no places were provided in our book, so we promptly concluded that such stamps were extremely questionable, maybe, even counterfeits, not till we had more experience in the stamp business, did we learn that there are new issues galore every year, with which no album could hope to keep pace.

An older collector gave us the address of some stamp dealer in St. Louis, I can't recall his name, and we sent for a selection of stamps on approval. When this beautiful first lot came, the "Ohs" and "Ahs" of admiration from the assembled circle of embryo collectors was wonderful to hear, for by this time we had interested other boys in our science.

Upon the introduction of these

sheets, other boys sent for selections and the approval market in our city was speedily glutted, as I suppose that we had no more pocket money than any average American boy had, some of my readers know the amount by actual experience, so back we went to our old system of bothering busy office men with requests to look over their letters for stamps.

I must not forget to tell, in this connection, of a little incident in which my brother and I took part, while on one of our periodic hunts for stamps. We were in an office pawing over the contents of a large waste basket, when a man whom I now begin to suspect was a dealer or collector in disguise, came in and asked "what we were doing." Upon being told, "that we were looking for stamps", he said, "That so? Do you collect?" "I have a few here myself," and taking a fat wallet from his pocket, he took out a bunch of stamps, to give us, we supposed. "Have you got this?" said he, displaying a \$3.00, 1898 Revenue, "No" was our answer, "Alright" he said, and laid it aside. "Have you this?" showing a \$10.00, 1898 Reveune, "No," we replied, and so on through a large lot of valuable U. S. which we already pictured as reposing in our album. Upon reaching the last one, asking us "if we had it" and getting the usual "No", he said, "Well, I have" and began gathering up his stamps. Then at last it dawned on us that he was not going to make us a present of these treasures, and with feelings too deep for utterance we left him, with but scant ceremony, I fear.

I might go on and tell you of a few other interesting experiences, to date, how we discovered stamps catalogued (on the wrong page, of course) at prices to make us rich at once, but I

believe that with few exceptions, the latter part of our joint collecting career, has been much the same as that of any collector, among the countless numbers the world over, and as I take it that the reader is a collector, he can probably guess at the rest of our experiences.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL AND OTHERWISE

The "Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal," which is published in Germany, has been issued once in two weeks for thirty years.

Persons residing in the Philippines pay but 1 cent postage on a letter weighing a half ounce.

Canada is adopting the United States plan of precanceling stamps. Already the 1 and 5 cent king's head stamps have been precanceled.

Great Britain is now issuing 1 penny stamps in booklets similar to those issued by the United States.

There are sixty-six postoffices in the German colonies, of this number 32 are in southwest Africa; 27 in east Africa; 5 in the Caroline and Mariana Islands; 2 in Togoland; 1 each in Samoa and the Marshall Islands.

The new Louisiana exposition stamps are printed in sheets of one hundred and issued in sheets of fifty. The sheets are perforated vertically through the center, thus leaving an unperforated edge. The sheet bears plate numbers and the imprint at the top and bottom. There are no side numbers on the sheets.

Inscriptions on Stamps BY L. G. DORPAT

Continued from last number.

WU-HU is very plain in the centre of Scott's cut A. 11., It appears in all upper corners also Wu-hu, literally, means Weeds-lake. The character in the centre of A. 5. is "FU.," riches, that in A. 10. is "Chi"; Good fortune.

To conclude I wish to say that all which I have given here I have learned from Mr. Pich. Geoghegan in private correspondence and from his article in No. 556 of Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.

If any country outside of Europe deserves credit for originality and taste that appeals even to an European eye, in its stamps, it is JAPAN.

This country made its first issue in 1871 on paper of a peculiar kind with colors of uncommon hues and in a particular design, engraved with extra skill and accuracy, printed with unusual clearness and, of course inscribed in wonderful characters and a language—well, I have no name for it except—Japanese. It will be noticed that the first character is at the top of all four values is "SEN," the same as Chinese "Chien" or mace, the tenth part of a liang or tael, equal to 6 mills U. S. money. On the first value below "Sen" we read downward "Shi;" four, "YU" ten, "HACHI" eight, "MOW" mow (a coin), that is 4x10 Sen plus 8 mow equals 48 mow. In the second value under "Sen" we read "HYAKU," hundred, "MON," mon. The third value has, "NI-HYAKU," 200 mon, and the fourth has "GO-HYAKU-MON," 500 mon. The second issue, 1872, has two characters only, the lower one being "Sen" and the upper sen "HAN", half, "ICHI", one, "NI", two, and "GO", five, respectively. In 1872 a new design

was introduced bearing the value at each side in Japanese, besides at the top and bottom in English. In the center they all have the same: "YU", post, "BIN," facility "KIRI-FE" (read Kitte), stamp. Yubin-kitte is postage stamp, the "bin" needing us extra translation. This term is found on most Japanese stamps until the present time; in the type of the 6 sen 1874 we find in the center "Yu-bin at the right and "Kitte" on the left of the chrysanthemum. In 1874 plate-numbers were introduced on the face of stamps of the old design they are found on a small rectangle at the junction of the two stems of wreaths in the center. Scott's (1903) gives them up to 23, Kohl's (1904) has them quite plain up to 48. On the stamps of the belt or garter design the plate number is right under the buckle. On the design which has a bird in the center the plate-number is at the base of the circular band. They are not identical with the numerals, but are characters for syllables as these are arranged (like our alphabets) for memorizing etc. They read "I" (1), "20" (2), "wa" (3) ("ni" (4), "a" (5), "to" (6), "Chi" (7), "ri" (8) "nu" (9) "Su" (10) etc. This explains, why "ni" (two dashes, one over the other) may mean either two or four; as numeral it stands for two, as syllable it stands in the fourth place. We have something similar to this in our numerals and letters I, V, X, and O, I meaning one numeral, but standing for 9 in a series of letters. The Japanese numerals read: "Ichi" 1, "ni" 2, "san" 3, "shi" 4, "go" 5, "roken" 6, "hachi" 8, "Kyu" 6, "ju-ni" 12, "ju-go" 15, "Ni-ju" 20, "san-ju" 30, "shi-ju" 40, "shi-ju-go" 45. Ichi-sen (one sen) is pronounced "is-sen".

To be continued.

Counterfeits and Their Detection

By R. R. Chiele

Genuine

Forgery



VENEZUELA. The 1c gray brown of the 1861 issue of this country is no great rarity, but according to the old proverb in case of necessity the devil eats flies and so the festive forger in a leisure moment has turned his attention to this stamp. The fact that the original is lithographed has made the task easier for him, but we may nevertheless congratulate ourselves that he has not succeeded any too well. The counterfeit is lithographed, but has imitated the original with rather indifferent success. (The three values of this set, by the way are of the same general design, but there are easily observed differences which show that the three values were each separately drawn and not all taken from one original die by altering the value.).

The coat-of-arms shows numerous distinguishing features. The two cornucopias above it are much too large for their lower ends; they are also indistinctly drawn on the counterfeit that they are difficult to recognize for what they are supposed to be. This is true of one of the forgeries I have before me, but another one, the one reproduced above is better imitated in this respect, the cornucopias being plainly distinguishable, though also too large. The object in the left upper field of the coat-of-arms (dexter chief, I believe

the heralds would call it) is a sheaf of grain and plainly seen to be such on the original; the counterfeit above shows it quite plainly also, but the other one merely has a dark blotch without particular form. This latter forgery has fine lines in the background of this compartment close together, like the original, while the illustrated counterfeit has coarse lines wide apart here. The stand of flags in the upper right field is indistinguishable on both counterfeits. The background of this field consists of small dots, quite well done on the original; on both of the counterfeits these dots are large and very irregularly placed. The horse in the lower field furnishes an easily applied test. On the original it is really a horse and plainly seen to be such. On the counterfeit depicted above this animal has grown to enormous proportions as concerns its body, which has become curiously elongated, as seen above. On the other counterfeit there is merely a resemblance to a poodle dog as to a horse. The line dividing the lower field from the upper one is very slightly curved on the original; the forgery shown above it is curved, but altogether too much; on the other one it is quite straight. The horizontal lines of the background in this field should be fine and evenly placed, but on both the counterfeits they are coarse and irregular. The branches at either side of the shield differ very much from the original on both forgeries, but it is difficult to describe these minute details. The illustrations above will give you a good idea of these branches as compared with one of the counterfeits, on the other one they resemble the original a little more. The right-hand branch (a palm leaf, it seems) affords the best, on the original it is plainly recurved inwards toward the

shield at the top, while on both counterfeits it points outwards. The word LIBERTAD affords good tests. On the original it is not very regularly placed; the L begins about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. to the right of the left vertical line of the shield, while the D ends under the right vertical line of the shield; the first four letters LIBE; are more crowded than the last four RTAD; the point of the shield is over the R. On the counterfeit illustrated above the point is also over the R, but the first part of the word is more spaced than on the original, so that the L begins very nearly under the left vertical line of the shield. On the other counterfeit the position and spacing of the word are more like the original, but the point of the shield is more nearly over the E than over the R. The words UN CEN-TAVO on both forgeries differ from the original. The letters on both are too tall and too thin as compared with the original, especially the N, the C and the V. On the original the last o is placed a trifle higher than the other letters; the counterfeits do not show this, but to make up for it, on both of them the n of Un is placed lower than the U. The period after the value should be under the second pearl in the row of pearls above it; on one counterfeit this is the case, but on the one shown above the period is under the corner pearl. These pearls in themselves afford an infallible test. On the original there are 16 pearls on the left side of the stamp, 17 at the right and 18 in the horizontal row at the foot (in every case the corner pearls are counted twice, both vertically and horizontally.) On one of the counterfeits, the one shown above, there are 20 pearls at the left, 16 at the right, 17 at the foot; those at the left are very small and indistinct.

On the other counterfeit there are 15 pearls at the left, 16 at the right and 21 at the foot, the latter also rather indistinct. The upper inscription may also be compared. The C of CORREO is very near the left line of the stamp the de is to the left of the interlacing of the cornucopias nearly all the letters of VENEZUELA lean a little to the right. On the counterfeit illustrated above the words are placed correctly, but the letters of VENEZUELA are quite perpendicular. On the other forgery the C is placed too far in, quite clear of the bearded border the de is directly over the knot of the cornucopias there is considerable space between de and the other words the letters of Venezuela lean to the right, but far too much so, and are quite irregular—i. e. the Z is much larger than the E just before it.

✻ **U S Notes** ✻
✻ **By E R ALDRICH** ✻

A rare variety L. P. is next in order. Mekeel's Weekly reports the find of a part perforate sheet of the two cent value.

The precancelled collection of U. S. postage of Mr. F. L. Smith of New York is probably unrivalled, embracing about 2500 specimens.

A note in a recent newspaper states that the portrait on the Laird perfumery stamp was that of Harriet Hubbard Ayers, whose recent death is noted.

The stamp question now before the department is Shall the Clark-Lewis Exposition receive an issue."

One of my Washington correspondents intimates if so that there will be a single value.

Thus far I have not met with the one cent Louisiana Purchase Issue

precancelled for St. Paul (Duck's Type 2) and Salem, Mass. Mr. Wells reports its use also at Edela, Pa., and Mr. Smith shows it from Boston.

The Rev. H. W. Reed has the five cent due precancelled Chicago in his collection.

An unlisted Confederate local was offered at a recent Boston sale. It was an envelope with a framed "Paid 10" in the upper right hand corner which was cancelled with stamp "Corinth June 24."

A New York firm promises the early issue of a check list of U. S. proofs. The specialist will eagerly await its appearance.

Twine would seem to be but a trifling feature in postal department affairs yet from \$75,000 to \$100,000 worth is used annually. In his report of June 1896 the first assistant postmaster general says: I have demanded of postal employees a more economical use of twine, and have been more prudent in the issuance of twine, all of which has rendered unnecessary any change in the amount appropriated for this item since July 1, 1894; but owing to an increased, and what seems now, in a limited degree, justified, demand for this article, it is deemed advisable to ask for the next fiscal year an increased amount. The records show that 59,864 pounds more were used during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1895, than during the previous fiscal year, and for the fiscal year just ended 1,319,266 pounds were required, an increase of 101,661 pounds over the year ended June 30, 1895. During the past year and for the past two years, it was found necessary to practically expend the total amount appropriated. The number of pieces of mail increases every year by about 7 per

cent, and, too, there are more employees handling mail and twine. The amount of twine used the present fiscal year exceeds that of last year by 101,661 pounds. The department has made very good contracts for twine, but it is not safe to anticipate much of a reduction in price from the present figures.

At a recent meeting of the London Philatelic society the Prince of Wales read a paper on the "Postal Issues of the United Kingdom During the present reign." After he had finished reading the paper, the prince, who is honorary president of the society, displayed his 1 and 2nd "Post-office Mauritius stamps.

This is the season of the year when the wide-awake advertiser looks after fall business by occupying generous space in the WEST. It is proper to have representation there all the year, but now is the accepted time, now is the day of increased inches and attractive display, if the advertiser would demonstrate the power of printers' ink judiciously spread.

As an exhibition was recently held in New York at which the principal object was to describe the stamp portraits, I may draw attention to an article in the Stamp Collector which describes the gentlemen figuring on the 1873 issue of Argentina. They are: 1c, General Juan Ramon Balcarce; 4c, Dr. Mariaon Moreno; 30c, General Carlos Maria de Alvear; 60c, Gervacio Antonio de Posadas; 90c, General Cornelio Saavedra. See the article for particulars. Somebody with leisure time and a good reference library within reach would do well to publish a handy little biographical dictionary for stamp collectors; I think it would find considerable sale.

***The Importance of Philately* * * ***

By WENDELL WHEELER

Stamp collecting has, for me, always held the foremost place in my affections. It has an irresistible impulse about it that almost forces one to keep it up after it is once started. This great diversion of ours has grown from a baby, as it were, to be a national fad, with thousands of members. In nearly every country that issues postage stamps there are many stamp collectors. Who is there in this great country of ours who has not at some time or other in his existence nourished some feeling for the stamps of our own country? If he is visiting abroad, the letters which he sends home are cherished by the members of his family because they represent the many places in which he had traveled. It fills him with an enthusiasm that is too great to measure.

Many stamp collectors receive their first start in collecting by coming across an old United States stamp or perchance a foreign stamp. This encourages him to hoard up his stamps until he gets a sufficient quantity to justify him in purchasing an album. After the stamps are transferred, he subscribes for a weekly or monthly stamp paper, answers several of the advertisements in it and is soon a full-fledged philatelist.

People who are not interested in the noble art of collecting stamps as a rule, always ask the collector of what use are his stamps after he does get them, and what are they worth, etc., etc. In reply to these questions, they are sometimes astonished at the answers given them. The postage stamps of the world are of very valuable assistance to the intelligen-

philatelist as they greatly benefit him in the study of geography. They enable him to locate places that the average person who is not a collector never hears of or knows there is such a place. In history, for example, how many of the average citizens know when postage stamps were first used, what country was the first to issue them, who originated them, and countless other questions that may be asked? The training of the philatelist is such that he is enabled so tell instantly by the appearance of the stamp the year in which it was issued, the country which issued it, and its value. I have seen persons who were really intelligent ask what kind of a stamp a certain copy was, when the name of the country was plainly printed upon its face. The philatelic seeker of pleasure is able to perceive these things without much apparent effort.

As some one has said, the stamps of a country portray the leading characteristics of it. Therefore by the diligent study of the different postage stamps a person may learn many things about the countries. Take for example, the Columbian issue of the United States. From them we are able to see some of the difficulties which Columbus encountered, ranging from his deepest trials to his final success. From the Omaha series we find out many things about the West. On the Buffalo series are pictured the inventions and achievements of the nineteenth century.

In conclusion, I will say that even as the stamp collectors are legion so are the things to be learned from his multi-colored bits of paper. After all there is no place like home, especially when that home is our common bond of fellowship, philately.

When and How I started to Collect Stamps

By JOHN G MASON

On the 5th day of April 1851 we left St. Louis, Missouri with an emigrant train, bound for California.

We arrived in this county of Sierra on the 5th day of November 1851 at the small town of Spanish Flat having about 200 miners for its population. By June of 1852 the population had increased to 3000. It seemed as if the roughest element of the world had been thrown together in this place with plenty of good and true men, but the rough element predominated. Nearly every part of the world was represented here, as it was a rich placer mining county. Among the hard cases was the famous "White Headed" Ross, a native of Tennessee and his famous gang of nine cut throats and Highwaymen, who lived in little cabins across the streets from us. Ross took a great fancy to me as women and children were scarce. The mails came only once a month by steamer from New York. One day in July 1852 after the mail came in I was in Ross' cabin when a letter with ten one cent stamps of the 1851 issue pen cancelled was handed him. I was only a small boy but my curiosity was aroused and I asked him for them. He tore them off the envelope and gave them to me, with the remark to his three partners that were living with him to hunt up, and give the boy any stamps they might have and as his word was law with them they immediately obeyed. It was but a short time until most of the miners in the town were contributing stamps to me. In the next eight years I had stamps given me from all over

the world as well as the U. S. many unused ones had been enclosed in letters to prepay postage on answers not knowing they could not be used for same and my Irish friends would say "Give them to the Bye—they are no use to us." How my thoughts wander back now to those Original Covers of all shapes and designs so many homemade, by folding paper over in the shape of an envelope and sealing the flaps with thin round small seals of various colors of red, purple, green, black, etc., by placing them under the flaps making them almost invisible. If I only had of known as much as I do now, and collected the original covers, up to the present time, with the opportunities I had as for years we were the only family at the place, and all the miners were contributing to the boy. I could to-day, vie with Mr. Seybold in his grand collection of original covers. I well remember seeing the St. Louis, Hawaiian, Virgin Islands Mauritius, etc., of the earliest issues, on the original covers, and many copies of them too. How well I remember the many kinds of revenues, during the war of the rebellion, more particularly the T. Kensett fruit stamp on canned goods the only one of its kind used. The pile of old cans that were thrown away after using the fruit, with the one cent green stamp sticking to them. Oh! if I only could get into that pile now. Many times now, I go to my trunk and take out the old long narrow blank book, my first stamp album with my first stamps in and think how careless I was. All the unused stamps I licked the original gum and stuck them in the book, and they are still sticking there. And many that were torn from letters, I made paste and pasted them in tight, so I would

have a hard job now to get them off. But—I was a boy then and albums and hinges were ont in use. Probably many of the Philatelists of today can look back and see the same error they made when boys. Those first ten stamps caused me to be a stamp fiend and I now have a very good collection with a large number of entires and original covers, dating back to the early fifties.

Karl's Alladin's Lamp

Madeleine Brookner stood dreamily gazing from her window, her great, dark eyes shining with the light of a heavenly inspiration.

A passing ray from the departing sun tarried for a moment to cast a halo of golden radiance about the earnest, young face,. Through the soft summer twilight floated the mellow symphonies of the great organ in the old church across the way. Wrapt in profoundest attention, the girl listened until the last dying strains had melted away into the shadows of the night. Then, as if rudely snatched from some fairy realm of delight, she sighed wearily and an expression of deepest longing crept over the youthful features.

"Why had fate been so cruel to her?" she thought. Why could she not be granted an opportunity to develop the talents which kept clamoring so unceasingly for expression? If her poor father had not been taken away she mused, then all would have been well. Then there would have been no obstacles to overcome, in her ambition to be a great musician. But now there were the two little brothers to help care for, a task which she must share with her mother.

It was a relief from these sorrow-

ful meditations, when little Karl and Adolph came bursting into the room, evidently burdened with some announcement too important to be suppressed.

"Say, Sis," said Karl, "I know how you can get a piano. A man in New York is going to give a piano and a course of lessons to anyone who sends him a million stamps." Madeleine smiled. "Why my dear child," said she, "don't you know that that would be almost impossible. It would take a long time to count a million, let alone getting that many stamps." Karl appeared somewhat taken back at this view of the case. "Maybe that's so," he said. "But never mind, Sis, we won't give up till we try it anyway."

During the next few weeks the hope of securing the piano occupied the minds of a considerable number of the inhabitants of the neighborhood. After a few efforts, however, the majority of these prize-seekers gave up the task as a hopeless one. One night as Karl and Adolph lay in their bed indulging in boyish speculations on divers subjects, Karl observed, "If we only had Aladdin's Lamp we could get those stamps in a jiffy." "There aint any such things as Aladdins Lamps, returned Adolph. Those fairy stories aint true." "I wish they were, and we could find some fairy who would obey any of our wishes," continued Karl. "If I thought it would do any good, I would wish for a million stamps to drop right down in this room." "Well you might as well not waste your breath," said the matter-of-fact Adolph, who then yawned and sleepily closed his eyes. If only their father was with them thought Karl he would find some way of getting the stamps. He had been a dealer in the town where they had lived far

away in the old country, and had had countless numbers of stamps. "But then," Karl mused, "If he had been spared, the stamps would not have been necessary." For several moments, the youth lay dreaming of ways to gain the much sought for prize for his sister. Finally his mind returned to the subject of the fairies. "Wouldn't it be just bully to have one of those Aladdin Lamps," he thought. Then his attention was diverted to the ceiling overhead, by the scurry of tiny feet, accompanied by a gnawing of thin boards. A moment later a bit of plaster fell to the bed and this was soon followed by a substantial shower which struck the young dreamer plump in the face.

Karl brushed this away and in so doing grasped a bit of paper which he aimlessly held for an instant and then glanced at it carelessly. As soon as he saw what it was, he pinched himself to see if he was really awake and then lost no time in arousing his brother. The two quietly made their way to the attic above where the sight which greeted them brought forth stifled exclamations of joy, for stored away in several large bags were untold quantities of continentals. The contents of one of these was strewn about the floor, and in gnawing the hole in the thin partition, the mice had revealed the whereabouts of the stamps. Their father had evidently stored these away at some time. During the next few days the countenances of the two boys wore an unwonted seriousness which their sister could not explain until, upon returning from her work one evening, she was overjoyed to find awaiting her the realization of one of her fondest hopes in the shape of a handsome piano. The story of how Madeleine

became famous is a tale in itself but to this day she has never solved the mystery of how the piano was obtained, for to all her queries, her brothers only reply that the treasure which accomplished the desired end was revealed to them at night through a message from above. And this, after all, is not far from the truth.

Holland has issued stamps for fifty two years. During that time not even one stamp has been issued which was not absolutely necessary. No very high values have appeared. What is really more remarkable not one single stamp has ever been surcharged by Holland.

Once in a while the one-time advertisement, on a special occasion, will bring good results, but not one time in a hundred, unless the advertiser has been fairly well advertised in the community before.

Don't forget that persistent advertising pays, while spasmodic attempts, though on a large scale, are soon forgotten. The water that trickles drop by drop constantly, day by day, year by year, leaves its impression in the rock.—Mail Order Journal.

The 1883 issue of the stamps of Norway had Egyptian capitals and on the 1894 series Roman capitals were used.

Do not swear at the collector whose stamps are not perfectly centered or in superfine condition otherwise. The chances are that he had his stamps before you knew anything of philately.

My Favorite Country

By A Z

"Lives there a man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said'
This is my own, my native land?"

I consider it unnecessary to tell the readers of the WEST the name of my favorite country for they will doubtless all agree with me in placing our own United States first on the list. But, as it is good to give a "reason for that faith within us" we will recount a few of the causes that impel us to this choice.

What other country compares to ours when examined by the light of history? Note the glorious achievements of our soldiers upon land and of our sailors upon the seas; and when proud Britain styles herself the "mistress of the ocean" point her to that roll of fame whereon are writ the names of John Paul Jones, Captain Lawrence, and Oliver Hazard Perry.

What country compares to ours in the good it has done mankind? How many homes has America given to European peasants, without hope of advancement in their own country but who have become prosperous citizens of the Great Republic? Consider the benefit to the world of American inventions in which more progress has been made in the last century than had been accomplished in five hundred years previous. But why follow these lines of thought further? The Stars and Stripes lead—others follow.

But even from a purely philatelic standpoint our country excels all others. What other pages of your album compare for beauty or interest with those containing the stamps of your own country? Surely not the Seebecks of South and Central Amer-

ica though they were made especially for your benefit. Nor the French stamps with their similarity of design and their multiplied colonial issues. Nor the Germans with their dull colors and uninteresting designs. Think of the grand array of heroes whose faces adorn the postal issues of our country—men "whose names go thundering down the ages" and who are known wherever civilization exists. Washington, who led the armies of the infant republic to victory; Jefferson, the exponent of true democracy and the rights of the common people; Franklin who rose from poverty and obscurity to the front ranks; Clay and Webster, the peers of the greatest statesmen the world has produced; Grant, the silent soldier; Lincoln, the liberator; the Perry, whose laconic message announcing his victory will be remembered as long as history is read or written; Garfield and McKinley, who served their country on battlefield, in legislative halls, and in the president's chair; all these and others pass in silent review before us as we turn the pages of our album. Great statesmen, warriors, presidents and jurists, the memory of whose deeds incites us to nobler actions and more generous impulses.

What gladdens the heart of the philatelist more than to secure a copy of a rare stamp from his own country especially if it be one that he has never seen before? How carefully he examines it and consults his catalogue for any information he can gain concerning it, and with what satisfaction he places it among its fellows.

But enough, "Comparisons are odious" it has been said; and, generally speaking this is true. But American collectors may certainly be excused for viewing the stamps of their own country with pride.

Our Illustrations.

E. Spinony, born in Watsonville Santa Cruz Co, Calif of French parents, 40 years old.

When a boy collected for a few years, but left off in 1891 was passing in a street in San Francisco when he saw a collection of about 1200 var. The fever came on again.

Is in the Exchange business, having about 10,000 duplicates to trade off. Collects every kind of stamps, but specializes in U. S. and Colonies, having a fine showing of such.

Have dealt with L. Brodstone the P. W. since 1896 with perfect satisfaction. Advertises extensively in U. S. and Foreign papers. Speaks French and German. Now book-keeper and accountant. We show two gold coins he would like to know value of and what they are.

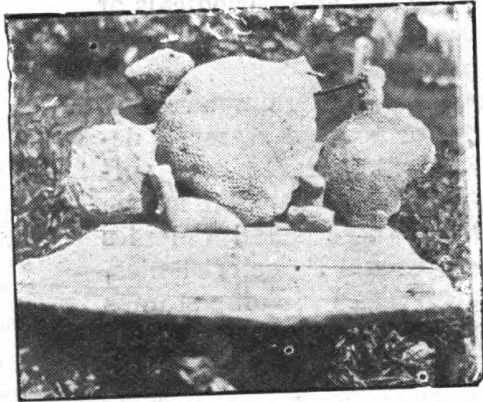
W. Brezee is a general dealer and collector of Albany N. York. He has a medium sized collection which includes about 500 varieties of U. S. stamps. He is in the employ of one of the largest wholesale Drug houses in the East and makes a specialty of catering to the general collector and has on hand a fine line of general approval sheets. A recent find of his was two pair of the 5c 1871 Prop. in fine condition.

Chas. Grandpierre! Journalist, a leap year child, born February 29, 1868 Neuchatel (Switzerland), of one of the oldest families of that country, almost every generation having for centuries supplied magistrates to the former principality of Neuchatel, now one of the states of the Swiss Confederacy. His father, well known writer of history, was at his death president of the Supreme court of his

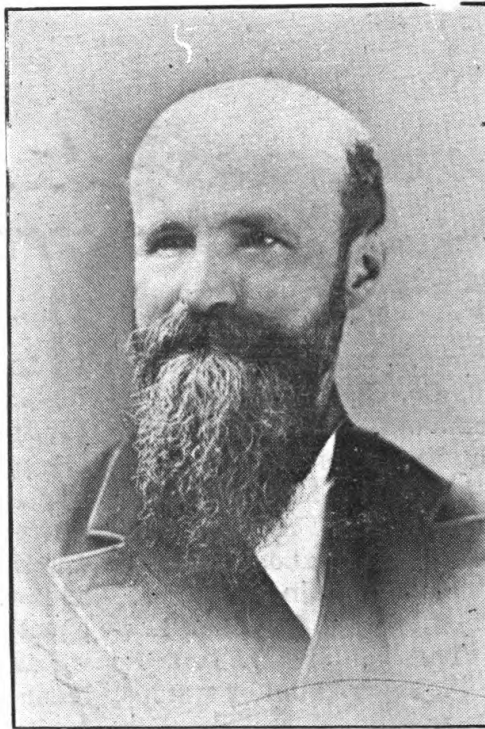
canton. Our friend, his son, first destined himself to Divinity, but after two terms at the University of Basle, went over to law in Leipzig and Berne, graduating at the latter university. The press had more attractions for him than the practice of law. Writing German and French equally well he was in succession editor and correspondent of some of the leading newspapers and periodicals of his country and wrote several books and pamphlets.

As a collector C. Grandpierre has a fancy only for postage stamps, despising as a rule unused and surcharged provisionals as well as the stamps of all those small Colonies (like Portuguese and French Colonies, North Borneo etc.) issuing stamps chiefly as a speculation. He specializes in Netherland having fully classified about 2500 different varieties of types (plates redrawn), perforations, paper, shades, etc., of the stamp of that country. His domicile is now 2340, Pine Street, St. Louis, Mo. He will be pleased to correspond with any collector wishing information or knowing anything particular about the stamps of the Netherlands.

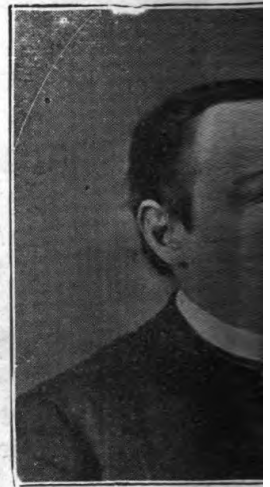
Harry R. Marlow of Warren, Ohio, was born October 1, 1878. Was educated in the country school and a year in the Warren Business College. Was raised on a farm and takes a great deal of interest in the growing of seeds for the market. Has learned the printing trade and is interested in many business affairs. His pastime is divided between stamp collecting and amateur journalism. His collection of stamps numbers many



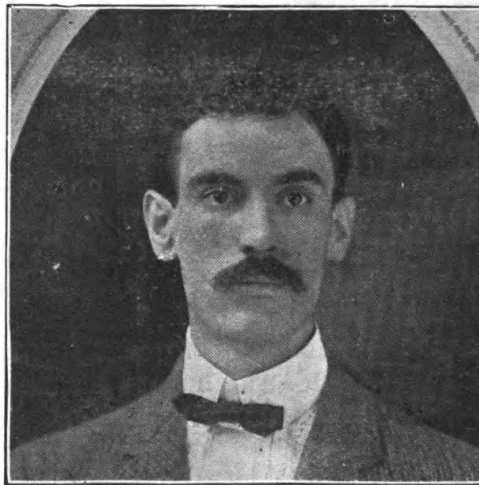
Some Devonian Deposits of Iowa



T. H. McCoy, Chicago



E. Spinony, C



W. Breeze, Albany, N. Y.

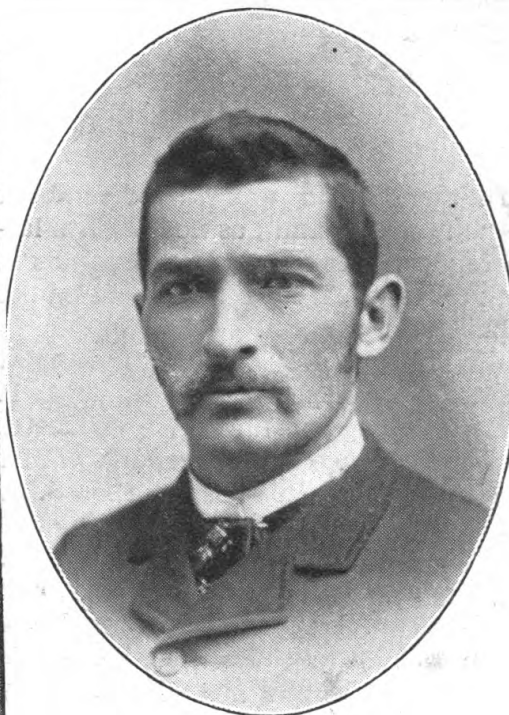




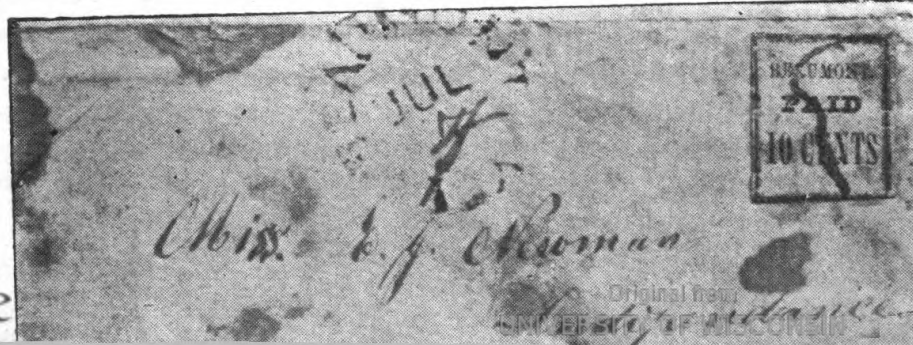
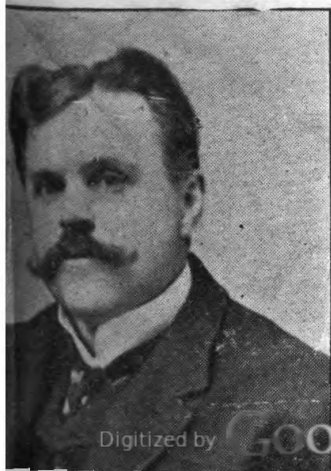
Falls, Mont.



C. Grandpierre, St. Louis



C. E. Briggs, Liston, Ia.



thousands and was started at about the age of 14 and has next to the largest collection of amateur papers in the world. We show cut of one of his stamp packets.

The picture of 10 Beaumont stamp envelope it also had a 10 Baton Rouge on the inside the letter and envelope was the property of Mr. Newman and his sister Miss S. J. Newman gave the letters to him in Independence, Tex, Washington, Co. in the year 64 or 65. The photograph was taken for her and the envelope was sold for a good sum at St. Louis some time during the winter. July 4 and 7 are both marked on the envelope but not the year but it was a good rare envelope.

Cover cut of last No. and this is from Rettingers collection. When a boy some years ago he began to save curios of different specimens of stones and has always kept them well preserved. He has many specimens good and poor from Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Dakotas, Montana and Florida they consist of Indian stone implements petrified specimens and fossils of many kinds. His collection is not for sale. Will give more next month. Says every collector should be a subscriber to the WEST.

T. H. McCoy has a fine article in this number on shells. His collection is the largest in Chicago and we hope to give some illustrations of his collection.

C. E. Briggs who has in this number an article on Devonian Deposits of Iowa and give some illustrations of them.

C. Dutton is the one who got up the cover design in this number and for February. We hope to have more from him.

Comic souvenir poet card from England.

Souvenir Postal Cards

BY MADELINE KELLER

Some handsome new sets of souvenir postal cards are being gotten out by various publishers, bearing fine colored photographs of public buildings and other points of interest. A certain company turns out cards in natural colors, the process was invented in Zuerich Switzerland and is considered the latest and best. Various fine scenic view cards are seen from Naples, Italy. The Castle del Ova which is now a prison and derives its name from its oval shape, is beautifully depicted. It is said to be one of Naples' land marks. This city retains many 13th century features despite its many earthquakes.

San Carlo theatre, Castle Nuovo and Castle Sant Elmo, are beautifully illustrated. From Rome we see the ancient castle of St. Angelo,. It is a large circular tower some 230 feet in diameter on a basement, said to be about 300 feet square. Three Renaissance stories appear on the summit to serve the purpose of a citadel. It was built by Hadrian. The palace of the Quirinal the former summer palace of the Pope is depicted on another card. This is located on the highest of the seven hills of ancient Rome. The views from ancient Rome are beautiful and picturesque especially such as viewed from the Tiber, from Santa Bartolomes Island. One Turkish card is very interesting, showing the frowning Turkish fortress with its walls and feudal looking battlements. Within these walls it was the usual custom of the Porte to incarcerate the ministers of a foreign power upon declaration of war.



By ROY FARRELL GREENE, AS of CC

According to a New York correspondent the collecting of hotel folders is the latest fad. Almost all of the big hotels of Europe issue booklets descriptive of the particular hostelry, often illustrated by interior views or pictures of historic or legendary places nearby. How many of these a good, faithful collector might gather is problematical. Many of them can be obtained simply by a request to the proprietor, enclosing stamp, while others may only be secured through the agency of some personal friend who is making a continental tour. Hotels in Italy and Switzerland very often illustrate their folders with pictures of Italian lakes and bits of Alpine mountain scenery. Certain hotels of France, Holland, Germany, Austria and Hungary issue folders that contain much of legendary lore along with more staid geographical data. Hotels in Great Britain issue folders reflecting much of the life of city or country. Sometimes these are as elaborate as art magazines, and a collection of them large or small must be very pretty.

A very extraordinary skeleton is reported to have been found in Gough's caves near Cheddar, England, and Mr. St George Gray, curator of the Taunton Museum, pronounces it to be that of a cave dweller who lived between the Paleolithic and the Neolithic Ages. The skull is in many pieces, but it is evident that

the man had prominent brows with a forehead of average width but very receding. The lower jaw is powerfully formed and much wider than those of the present day, and the skull itself is very thick and strong. The front bone measures nine millimetres in thickness which exceeds by two millimetres the average of the present day. The height of the man was 5 feet $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches, which is about the average height of the men of the Stone age. The shin bone is flat, which is never the case with the present race. A number of flint instruments were found in immediate proximity to the skeleton.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Thayer of Brockton, Mass., bought an old secretary at auction some time ago, and in looking over it found a number of antique papers which were of especial interest. Among them were bills issued by John Quincy Adams, when he was in business, and bearing his signature in receipt of the money paid. They were dated 1812. Flyers issued when Mr. Adams was candidate for governor of the state were also there. A complete record of the town of Randolph for 1836 and other books and papers, all in manuscript written by Jason Holbrook of Randolph at the age of 18, were included in the list.

A few weeks ago it was learned that the Scrivener manuscript, Book I. of Milton's "Paradise Lost,"

bought at a London sale a short time before by an American collector, had been turned over to J. Pierpont Morgan. The collector who procured the manuscript is said to have been a certain fifth avenue book dealer. He paid \$250,00, and sold his purchase to Mr. Morgan as soon as it reached New York.

Ropes made of various kinds of fiber and leather are of very ancient date, but wire rope has been generally considered a modern invention, a product of modern skill, and the scientific world has been treated to a surprise in finding that its manufacture is really a rediscovered lost art. Ropes of palm have been found in Egypt in the tombs of Beni-Hassan (about 3000 B. C.) and on the walls of these tombs is also shown the process of preparing hemp. In a tomb at Thebes of the time of Thothmes III. (about 1600 B. C.) is a group representing the process of twisting thongs of leather and the method of cutting leather into thongs. The Bible tells us that Samson was bound with ropes and that the spies sent by Joshua into Jericho were let down in a basket, presumably by means of a rope. But all these had to do with the ropes made of fibre. Late excavations have brought to light a piece of bronze wire rope nearly fifteen feet long and about one Tinch in circumference. It consists of three strands being made up of fifteen wires twisted together, and its construction does not therefore differ greatly from that of wire ropes made today. Pompeii was buried A. D. 79, 1,825 years ago, but how long wire ropes had then been known it is impossible to tell. The specimen is now in the Museo Borbonico at Naples.

The Chicago Historical Society has sent an exhibit to the World's Fair at St Louis that contains many valuable papers.

In some cases the originals are to be seen, and in others merely the photographs of the very rare and precious ones that the Chicago people did not want to trust away from home. Among them may be mentioned an autograph letter of Robert de La Salle written from the site of Chicago and dated Sept., 1, 1683. The archaic French is of delicate penmanship and the large note paper is yellow with age. La Salle in this letter spells Chicago "Checagou." A document signed by Joliet in 1695; a document signed by Tonti, who was a companion of Marquette; a document signed by George Rogers Clark, the hero of Kaskaskia and Vincennes; a letter from Gov. James Wilkinson of Louisiana, to Don Jose Ventura Moruales, Spanish intendant of Louisiana, dated Fort Adams, April 20, 1803; letters from James Madison to Governor Claiborne and General Wilkinson, dated from the State department Feb. 6, 1803; from General Henry Dearborn to James Wilkinson, dated from the War department, Oct. 5, 1803; old documents of commission and appointment, portraits in oil of LaSalle, George Rogers Clark, and others, silhouettes, etc., form this very interesting contribution to the exhibits at the Fair by the Chicago Historical Society, and it will pay any curio lover who visits St. Louis to look them up.

It is rather odd that a Confederate flag of the Montgomery design with the seven stars of the original Confederate states, should have sold for only \$25 at auction of a collection in Baltimore not long ago. It was cap-

tured by the United States blockade service before 1864. It is said by the Baltimore American that "a wave of enthusiasm spread through the hall." It was not a competitive wave, however, and the Smithsonian Institution got it for \$25, its initial bid.

Curio Collecting

OWEN T. BREWER, A S C C 4 4 3

As I have already spent a few years in the collection of curiosities, I wish to give a few points which I have always found very important, especially in the exchanging with unknown parties.

I have found it best to send first, as you, if not an advanced collector will not know the value of some rare curio, which may have been sent you.

If you send first and the party reciprocates, why you are confident the party is satisfied with the exchange, and there is nothing like a pleased collector, as you may desire to exchange again sometime, or write for other information in that part of the country, which may aid you a great deal in some of your work. Happening as it may, you secure some lady's name who is an enthusiastic curio collector and you can make an exchange, why you are quite sure of a nice addition to your collection, providing the party is a married one and resides in some good locality. Tho I can't say anything against the unmarried ladies, as I have received many valuable curios from them in different states and some of the most beautiful Nature can produce. Alas! A lady's taste for nice and beautiful things seems perfect contentment, and a lady collector can't be excelled, as they try their utmost to satisfy each collector. Hence, I sent a lady with whom they exchange and gentleman in Colorado a package of selected curio and

near the same amount in each package. The lady sent me a nice package containing pyrites, hematite, gold and silver ore, agate, rhodocrosite and many other showy specimens. While the gentleman sent me a small box of pebbles and rocks labelled with some fictitious name, and undoubtedly was picked up from some small stream, as they were badly water worn.

Another good way to collect curio is to secure a correspondent in some state or country and obtain curio through him, this way, one learns the locality and history there with connected, which will make quite an interesting study.

A collector through the courtesy of a correspondent in New Zealand or any foreign country can secure interesting and valuable curio. From New Zealand one may secure fossil, coal, gold-ore, sea shells and relics of the native Maoris, who are rapidly decreasing in numbers, besides other curio which are being made by them and in use today.

Interstate Philatelic Association.

OFFICERS FOR 1904.

President. C H Precemeder, 206 Taylor St, Portland, Ore
Vice Pres. H Moeller, 254 12th St, Portland, Ore
Sales Supt. W W Nickerson, Klamath Agency, Ore
Secy. Treas. F L Applegate, Yainax, Oregon.
Trustees: F N M Cordlesz, 403 Luzon Bldg, Tacoma, Wash; John Zuz, Everett, Wash. and H L Geary, 722 Boern Ave, Seattle, Wash.
Official Organ, The WEST.
Convention Seat. Portland, Ore

The following new members have applied. No objection being raised they will duly be declared elected: No. 148. Albert A. Jessup, Salem, Or. Proposed by E. C. Patton. No. 149. Thos. H. Reynolds, Salem, Or., Proposed by E. C. Patton. No. 150. H. Clay Fox, Jr., Reciall, Or., proposed by F. L. Applegate. No. 151. Normon Frazier, Argyle, Wash. proposed by J. O. Burgman. Resigned No. 42. John Zug, Evertt, Wash. Frank L. Applegate, Secretary.

Coin of All Ages

Money of the Prehistoric Ages to the Present Day Shown in Interesting Array and Consecutively Through the Centuries at the Worlds Fair

By FARRAN ZERBE

In the various numismatic exhibits at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition is presented an abridged history of the divisions, governments, languages, customs, arts, architecture and commercialism of the civilized world from the eighth century B. C. to the present day, representing there periods of time—ancient, medieval and modern, and the twentyeight most progressive centuries of man.

The specimens of early metal mediums of exchange shown by Oriental countries, are from a remote past, regarding which there are not as the authenticity of time other than they antedate by centuries the earliest known money to which the coinage of today traces its origin.

The archaeologist in his research has brought to light that which is not only accepted as having been the currency of a time and people far removed from the period of barter, which preceded the earliest coins—those of the ancient Greeks and Lydians—but they link the lands of the now widely separated divisions of the globe and contribute to confirming the once contiguity of the two great hemispheres. Specimens have been found in the mounds that skirt the waters of the Mississippi and within the bounds of the Louisiana Territory, coinciding in shape and ornament with the relics exhumed from the sepulchral repositories of the ancient Egyptians and Etruscans.

This aboriginal "money" is found in many various forms, inscriptions and materials. The best authenticated specimens approach regular

shapes and a similarity of ornament, and are of stone, coal, lignite, bone shell, chalcedony, mica, and jasper with a very few in gold and silver.

The earliest preserved specimens of what is known to have been the early money of the Orient, particularly that of the Celestial empire, is particularly interesting. Some are rudely fashioned from metal bearing undecipherable inscriptions and in the shape of razor blades, keys, spades and other implements. Many are accepted as the products of more than thirty centuries ago, and all are sufficiently perfect to indicate that they had their origin centuries before. A characteristic of this Oriental currency, which is more than three thousand years old, is that all were made with an opening or hole, and evidence that it takes more than time to eradicate or change the customs of China. Thirty centuries ago they carried their money strung on strings and in continuation of that custom the minor coinage of the Chinese empire of today, called "cash" is made with a hole in it for carrying conveniences.

The "money" of the aborigines of the Orient, which lack data is not of particular interest to the numismatist. The earliest specimens that command the serious consideration of the collector and student are classed as "ancient coins" to whose origin the present coinage of enlightened man is uninterruptedly traced.

From about 700 B. C. the precious metals—gold and silver—are found in attempted circular shapes but the primitive coinage methods did not permit regularity as to form, weight or inscription. To particularize on the note worthy ancient and medieval coins that are shown would be to follow and refer to the divisions and subdivisions of the globe during

these periods. Among the most interesting are the gold and silver coins of Greece in Asia Minor, bearing animal devices and no inscriptions, and crudely fashioned, and which lead a few centuries later to a perfection in metal stamping, that is today in many respects a lost art. Later methods do not approach them in certain details of perfection. The earliest copper coins, those of the Roman republic, developed from the square shaped "As" to a series of metal money, approach in art those of Greece. They tell the tales of ancient cities. The portraits of the long list of Caesars are preserved on the coins of their time. The Celtic "ring money" and that of the ancient Egyptians and Persians, the incused coins of Sybaris and the cup shaped money of the Byzantine; the Jewish Shekel and "widows' mite," with their biblical associations are interesting money specimens of antiquity. Later money oddities are those of early Britain, shaped as rings and bracelets and conveniently carried as articles of personal adornment. None will more depict fallacy, than the "plate money" of Sweden. These are plates of thick cheap metal, weighing several pounds and in size up to ten inches square, of a stamped value of from one to ten "dollars". This was the extremity of an attempt to popularize base metals for currency and was repudiated by its own people. The bullet money, "ticals," of Siam, the cobb money of Mexico and the sected coins of many countries are of interest to the World's Fair visitor as are also the square and diamond shaped coins of more recent periods. The papal coins are particularly interesting, not on account of their excellence of production, but because they tell the story of church and state for

eleven centuries. Interest will be found in the oblong ingots and vessel shaped gold money of Japan and China. A coin of ancient Philadelphia, the Greek city of Love, is shown for comparison with the now products of modern Philadelphia, the home of United States coinage.

An exhibition of coins always attracts because it is money, but the study imparts that a knowledge of man in the day of their issue. The art of coinage is portrayed from the hammer and die to the crucible and mold, and from the screw press to the powerful stamping machines. Of "ye moneyer of olden days" none seem to have commanded the specific attention as those thus favored by early Britain. To be "coiner to the king" was to enjoy the greatest of privileges and those commanding it are pictured in jestures of extreme delight.

History and science acknowledge their indebtedness to the stamped metal currency that has survived the destroying agencies of centuries. That which has been preserved of modern times has proved invaluable in establishing or confirming epochs of the past of which there are no other accepted records. The intrinsic worth of a collective exhibit of the coins of the world would be very considerable but the great rarity or uniqueness of many specimens has multiplied their value a thousand fold.

Nation vies with nation in presenting its treasures. Archaeology welds well each link in its chain of co-operative research, and history presents its pages, omitting naught worthy of record. In doing this the numismatic treasures of the world form a part and are contributed to by the students of the science of numismatology who take pride in

exhibiting their prized possessions. While there will be a number of coin exhibits, they will largely present the metal of modern times. The money of antiquity is shown in many different displays by the respective countries whose dominions, if not continuous from the scene of the products are successors to the lands, religion or language, and the "money" of the aborigines is found in the division of archaeology.

Stamp Collectors Association.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS.

President—W. H. Barnum, 661 Rose Bldg. Cleveland, Ohio
 Vice President—L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.
 Secretary—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Illinois
 Treasurer—W. A. Zuehlke, Appleton, Wisconsin
 Sales Supt.—H. C. Crowell, Caxton Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.
 Official Organ—The WEST, Superior, Neb.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

To the Members of the Stamp Collectors' Association:—the first annual convention of this organization will be called to order at 10:30 o'clock the morning of Monday August 8th, 1904, in the parlors of Hotel Henry, Pittsburgh. Hotel Henry, located on Fifth Avenue near Smithfield Street, has been selected, by the committee of Arrangements, for the headquarters and members are urged to stop there while in Pittsburgh. This house is run on the European plan, rooms ranging from \$1.50 up per day. I have appointed Mr. H. C. Crowell, of Cleveland, Mr. A. D. Blair, Jr., of Elmira and Mr. J. A. D. Park of Pottestown, to serve as the committee on Credentials. Attention is drawn to the fact that the polls close 24 hours in advance of the convention, thereby necessitating their being in the hands of the Committee by Noon of Sunday the 7th. Hence members should not wait to cast their ballots until they arrive in Pittsburgh. Every member who possibly can be present, should make every

effort toward that end that our first meeting may prove a success. Fraternally., W. H. Barnum, President.

SECRETARYS' REPORT.

New Members.

112. Chas S Hibbard, 59 Genesee St., W Utica, N Y. 113. Lea Johnstone, 717 Alby St, Alton, Illinois. 114. W F Gregory, 65 Nassau St. New York, N Y. 115. Walter V Nugent, 606 N Prosrpect St, Merrill, Wis. 116. C Grandpierre, 2340 Pine Street, St Louis, Mo. 117. Harry B DeSelm, 23 Maple St. Kankakee, Ill. 118. Louis Myers Lang, 401 Fidelity Building, Baltimore, Md. 119. L N Skinner, 2306 C St, San Diego, Calif. 120. R Vanderwater, 217 Wildwood Ave, Kankakee, Ill.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

121 Mrs C P Yeatman, 6547 Normal Ave, Chicago, Ill. Age 50. Ref. A W Dunning, C H Mekeel. 122 J M Merry, San Francisco No 33, Serena, Chili, Mine owner, Age 41. Ref. A W Dunning, S E Moisant. 123 William Evans, M D 68 Holt St, Norfolk, Va., physician, Age 37. Ref S E Moisant, A Herbst.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Perry L Sargent, from Owyhee, Elko Co., Nevada to Tulalip, Wash. c-o Tulalip Indian Agency.

NOMINATIONS.

President. W P Kelley, Kansas City, Mo. E B Martin, Minneapolis, Minn. A D Blair, Jr, Elmira, N Y.

Board of Vice Presidents. W H Barnum, H C Crowell, W H Field, Cleveland, O. Leo Kahn, Geo F Bull, B F Egan, Indianapolis, Ind. W O Stabb, Leonard Michael, R E Baldwin, Chicago, Ill.

Secretary. Shirley Erwin Moisant, Kankakee, Ill.

Treasurer. W H Zuehlke, Appleton, Wis. Oney K Carstarphen, New York, N Y

International Secretary. J A D
Park, Buffalo N Y. John A Solo-
mon, E Greenwich, R I. L T Brod-
stone Superior Neb. (Declined.)

Union Souvenir
Card Exchange

President, Adolph Selige, St Louis, Mo.,
Sec'y-Treas., H. W. Lintz, Hebron, Ark., U. S. A.
REPRESENTATIVES.

L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Arthur L. Shaver, Box 324, Altoona, Pa.
Dues, for U. S. 50c per year; Foreign 75c

A WORLD WIDE SOCIETY FOR ACTIVE
POSTCARD COLLECTORS.
ORGANIZED APRIL 1904

32 Clarence Heberling, 1050 Adams
Ave., Tyrone, Pa. 34 Norman L.
Sims, 614-4th St, San Rafael, Calif.
35 Todd Fagan, 305 E 2nd St. Tope-
ka, Kan. 36 J Moffat McQueen, 169
Washington St. Mt. Vernon, N Y.

37 H E Parker, 5443 Easton Ave,
St Louis, Mo. 38 Jonh A Gallagher,
4232 A Evans Ave, St Louis Mo. 39
Margaret M Gallagher, 3167 Sheridan
Ave. St Louis, Mo. 40 Percy Smith,
Horsefair, Pontefract, Eng. 41 Hen-
ry Schott, 818 Lorain St, Cleveland,
Ohio. 42 Frank A Herdy, P O box
33, Quebec, Canada. 43 E C Clarey,
Bloomington, Ill. 44 Robert Arble,
127 E Walnut Ave, Altoona, Pa. 45
J C AufDerHeide, Box 479, Amster-
dam, Holland. 46 Richard Oertel,
Rose Hill, Texas. 47 Carrie Lynch,
602 Hikox Bldg, Cleveland, O. 48
Mae Delozier, 1719-4th Ave, Altoona,
Pa. 49 Madeline Keller, Manches-
ter, Wis. 50 John N Deglmann,
Mankato, Minn. 51, Adroque, Bue-
nos Aires, Arg. Rep, S A. 52 Dora
Guenter, Columbus, Texas. 53 Miss LE
Weatherhead, 136 Scott St, Cleve-
land, O. 54 Semper Fidelis Club,
95th and Throop Sts, Chicago, Ill.
55 A Montgomery, 1865 Colfax Ave,
Denver, Colo. 56 Chris Hansen Bx

84 Superior, Nebr. Just over from
Germany and wishes to X cards. 57
P A Van Blon Bx 817 Upper Sandus-
ky, O.

Our membership is rapidly increas-
ing and "The Union" bids fair to be
one of the foremost societies of its
kind. Why not send in your appli-
cation for membership. Dues are
small, benefits large. New members
receive the WEST one years 5, souv-
enir post cards, Membership certifi-
cate, a large list of names and ad-
dresses of card collectors and ex-
change notice in the WEST, other
benetfis later. To those not wishing
the WEST dues are 25c. There is
no doubt about it now, the "Union"
has come to stay so don't hold back
but write the secretary for applica-
tion blank at once. When we get
100 mempbbers a complete list of same
will be pubilshed in WEST. The
Secy, hopes to meet many of the
members in St. Louis on August 15th
collectors day. Very respectfully,
Horace W. Lintz, Secretary, Hebron,
Ark, U. S. A.

Some highly interesting autograph
letters were sold at Sotheby's in Lon-
don, on December 5th last. The
more note worthy included two un-
published letters of Lord Byron \$100
and \$150; a letter from John Evelyn
to his wife, June 19, 1661, \$90; a long
letter from Shelley to Godwin, Jan.
15th, 1816, on money matters, \$102.50.
a letter from W. M. Thackery to
Lady Haringdon in reference to the
letting of his house at Palace Green
brought \$70, and a letter from Gil-
bert White to his brother, on anti-
quarian matters, Jan. 8th, brought
\$61.25.

The Archaeology of New York

No. 5 Bone and Horn Implements
OSWALD A. BAVER

The articles coming under this head are usually not given as much consideration as those under the stone and metallic divisions, perhaps that bone is much more perishable than either of the others and the implements are therefore not as numerous. However they are important in the special uses to which they were put and deserve mention. The territory of the Iroquois of New York affords a large number of these specimens, well preserved and well made, and no where else is there a locality which can equal the bone articles of this nation.

Awls and bone knives form one of the largest groups under this head. No doubt some of the smaller so called awls were used as arrowheads while others may have been daggers or some similar weapon. The point of the awl is the chief thing to be considered and not the shape. Some have rounded points and these were clearly not used for piercing. The latter variety was commonly of bone and were called punches. Some varieties have the form of a knife with which is combined a point and these implements would have been very useful articles for skinning purposes. Awls were made of splinters or an entire piece of bone and some of them were of considerable size. The use of the so called punches is not known definitely. Many were probably used as war clubs especially the tapering forms. The assertion that some of the varieties were used in decorating pottery, although possible seems doubtful since a hollow bone was customary as the implement for that

purpose.

A favorite savage decoration seems to have been the teeth and claws of animals usually of the larger ones. Human trophies of this description and those of the smaller animals found little favor. Perforated and grooved teeth are fairly numerous, particularly those of the bear which seems to have been a favorite. Elk and deer teeth are other good examples. All of these were used by the natives as pendants and ornaments. Outside of them however bone and horn were little used in personal decorations it would appear. Perhaps some of the most grim ornaments are those made from human skulls which are occasionally found in different parts of the state. A peculiar bone form which comes only from Jefferson County has a knob at the top and is shaped like a canoe paddle. The size varies. Metallic tools were necessary to secure good results in carving on bone. The work on many specimens suggests the use of these tools where the specimens come from prehistoric sites.

The name arrowhead is commonly applied to the hollow horn or bone points with which a shaft could have been fitted. While not abundant these have a wide distribution. Some of the forms instead of being hollow were made for insertion in a shaft. The long variety of the arrow was often used in fishing, the Indian shooting at and piercing the fish in the water. The more complex variety is known as the harpoon and these occur in a multitude of forms. The harpoons found in New York are most abundant on the Iroquois sites. They possessed barbs on one or both sides varying in number. Fish hooks also occur in this state made from bone. They are with and without barbs, the latter being both

older and contemporaneous with the former.

Needles of bone have been found and are usually very thin and flat, having one or two holes in the center. They were used however, only in coarser work the bone awl being used in finer stitching. Very few are perfect since they were originally thin and were weakened by repeated perforations. A very few bone spoons have been found although these were usually made of wood. They were often of considerable size varying according to the age of the person to whom they belonged. On the whole bone and horn were abundant and it was merely a matter of choice which should be chosen. Awls, needles, etc., were usually of bone while harpoons and arrowheads were horn. The average sharpness and preservation which most of the implements under this head possess when found, is truly remarkable considering the great length of time they must have been under ground and exposed to conditions favoring decay.

MINERALOGY

EDITOR'S NOTE—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept. This month we have an article from R. M. Lane, Gt. Barrington, Mass. who will probably favor us later.—Forest Gaines. Ed.]

GARNET MINES, ROXBURY, CT.
(Continued from last number)

When the mine was working and they struck a vein, some very fine, perfect masses were taken out in clusters. The greater part, however, were shattered and bruised by blasting, so it is rare to find a nice group that can be developed in a soft schist; that is, into a good cabinet specimen with perfect angles. The largest ones are not often in a mass like the small ones. The miners say there was an offer of a thousand dol-

lars for a perfect garnet, but I never found anyone who claimed that he had seen one, but don't let us infer that no nice garnets are found for there are lots of beautiful ones.

I will not try to describe them, as all collectors know them or have them. The form is a simple dodecahedron and frequently the edges are truncated. No complex crystals are found. The ledge and rocks in the vicinity are covered with crystals of staurolite, some very perfect, but seldom an inch long. A few miles south and east are very large and coarse ones an inch in diameter, but seldom found as satisfactory specimens.

Associated with the garnets are veins of orthoclase and chlorite; also crystals of quartz and ripidolite found sparingly in groups with the orthoclase. Washingtonite is found in small thin blades.

This is one of the most interesting as well as one of the hottest places I ever went for minerals, and as you all know, the best specimens are almost, if not quite out of reach, then all you can do is to take off your hat to them and say "good-bye." Although it would take a good deal longer to make this trip than to read about it, yet there is a pleasure no one but an enthusiastic collector can feel, in seeing these beautiful and interesting minerals in their natural surroundings.

A Petrified Snail.

A remarkable curiosity was shown at the American Office yesterday by Mr. John D. Ehlers, 530 North Mount Street Balto, who claimed that it was a petrified snail and that it had been examined by government geologists, who had said that it was all the way from 4000 to 6000 years old. Mr. Ehlers says this queer specimen was found in a mine in Colorado many feet under ground, and that, as far as he had been able to ascertain, there were only three other specimens of a like character in the museums of the world.

Devonian Deposits

By C. E. Briggs

From Iowa City and following the Iowa River North and West a distance of 10 or 15 miles are the Devonian deposits. This region was no doubt at one time a shallow sea in which grew a dozen or more varieties of corals and many varieties of shells. Some of the corals have never been named or classified. I have prospected over this region many times and am satisfied that it contains the finest examples of at least two kinds of these corals that have ever been found. At a stone quarry near the river and about thirty feet above the river bed. The quarry men after the earth has been removed come upon a conglomerate mass of corals and shells most of these corals are the shape of the horn shaped kind but there are several varieties of them. Some are very small, others as large as two inches in diameter and eight to ten inches long.

Next in the stripping comes the *Acervularia Daudsoni* and the favorites, *Alphensis* Corals commonly known as the Birds Eye and the Fish Egg Marbles. These occur along with the other corals and shells and are all of a Seime foundation except occasionally some pieces show spots and particles of *Silicia* and sometimes we find Iron Pyrite imbedded in them.

The Birds Eye when not influenced by surrounding substances grew very similar in shape to the Brain Coral of the present age and are found from three inches to two feet in diameter. They start apparently from a single eye and as they grew radiated out and kept nearly circular shape and sometimes are very oval on top and others are nearly flat. The character and color of this coral is

rather hard to describe. The eyes are from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch in diameter and have either 5, 6 or 7 well defined sides from the center of each there radiates to the outside 36 lines that are lighter in color than the surrounding surface as are the side walls of the eyes. The color and beauty of the corals differ very much. Some are nearly white and there is but little contrast in the color of the eyes and the surrounding surface. Others are darker and there is a fine contrast in colors showing the eyes very finely. The centers of the eyes are nearly always darker than the surrounding surface. The general color is a yellowish brown. I am speaking of the polished specimen now for only in the polished specimen do we get the true color of the stones. The pores or cells left by the animal that made the frame work of these corals have been filled up by lime in solution and made solid so that they take a very high polish, equal almost to an agate. This brings out the colors and shows us the real beauty of the stone. This coral and the Favorites grew at the same time for we find them so closely associated that there is not even a line of sedimentary formation between them.

The Fish Egg as its name indicates when cut accross the cells show about the size of fish spoun. These cells though apparently sound have 5 or 6 well defined sides but are without the radiating lines found in the Birds Eye but the side walls of the cells are stronger than in the Birds Eye and are of a lighter color. Geologists have defined two varieties of this coral but the only difference is in the shape and size of the coral. One variety grew more like the Horn coral and the other more like the Birds Eye although I fail to find where one leaves off and the other commences

as I have found them from 2 inches to 18 inches in diameter although not in as symmetrical shape as the Birds Eye. The General color is about the same as the Birds Eye but this coral when polished show lines of a darker shade that add much to the beauty of the stone.

In a specimens in my cabinet that is 16 by 9 inches there are 20 lines running across the small way of the stone that are much darker and add greatly to its beauty. I think these lines indicate certain periods in the growth of the coral.

The Phillips *astrea Billingsi* (Cats Eye) marble is darker in color and the eyes are from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter and show from 44 to 54 radiating lines of a lighter shade but are well defined side walls, one eye merging into the other. This coral grew more flat spreading out to 2 feet in diameter with only a height of 6 or 8 inches and is found from 30 to 40 feet highre up than the other corals mentioned. We find all of the above in isolated specimens that have been washed out of the ground. Some of these have laid for years and have weathered so that they show the eyes and make showy specimens in the rough.

The color of these corals is so delicate that a photograph shows them only fairly well. I have made up a little exhibit of these corals for the St Louis Exposition and they will be shown in the Iowa department of the Mines Building. The lot consists of only four varieties, three of which are described in above article and are as follows: Birds Eye 16 inches; Ball 1 10 inches; Circular piece 1 specimen showing top pol only; 1 showing bottom cut off and pol; 1 paper weight; Fish Egg; 2 balls; 1 specimen showing pol and rough surface; 2 paper weights; 1 spec. of Cats Eye and 1 spec. Horn coral showing rough and

pol surface. Space would not permit me to show large specimens but they are very showy and when the readers of the WEST visit the Fair they should see the Iowa Fossil Corals for they have never been exhibited before at a big exhibition.

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J.
Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vaudaburg, Lithgow, New York.
Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askeew of Austin, Texas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

Since last report I have have received only one nomination. That of Chas. Roemer of San Antonio for President. I suppose the present officers will hold over for another year. As the nominations are not being made. Members should not fail to send in their dues now for 1904. If they are not paid up they canont vote. All members who intend to attend the Convention in St. Louis on August 16th should let me know at once so I can publish the same in August number of the WEST. I shall attend and hope to have the pleasure of meeting many of you there. Respectfully, W. P. Kelley, Secy-Treas. 3222 Peery Ave. Kansas City, Mo.

REPORT OF SALES SUPT.

In circulation last report 33		
Book value	-	\$499.80
Received since	2	13.11
	35	\$512.91
Retired	28	349.80
Sales \$95.18		
Now on circulation 7 Books \$163.11		
Hope to meet you all at St. Louis		
CHAS WARING.		

A Dissertation on Shells
By E. H. McCoy, A.S. of C.C.
Chicago, Illinois.

In this age of excursions and travel, it is probable that most of your readers will some time visit Chicago, so it may be of interest to the members of the A. S. of C. C. to know something concerning the principal collections and collectors of this city. In this letter I shall confine myself to the conchological collections. Being an inland city there are not as many shell collectors in Chicago as you would find in a small village on the sea coast, but there are a few here, who make it up in enthusiasm for the lack of number.

First, I will mention the collection of a very amiable lady, Mrs. Alice L. Williams, which stands easily first, both in regard to the number of species and the beauty of its specimens. Indeed, in many respects it is not equalled by any of the great public collections of America or Europe. I make this statement advisedly, having been a collector in a small way for twenty-five years and having visited most of the public and many of the private collections of this country and Europe.

Her shells are kept in wall cases and are all classified, every shell being labeled. When there are a number of small shells of one species, they are in a small glass-covered box and the box is labeled. They are so tastefully arranged as to make a beautiful picture, being so placed as to harmonize perfectly in form and color; Mrs. Williams having the eye of an artist. Take for instance the family of Cypraea. In the centre shelf in front is a magnificent *C. Broderippi*, placed so as to show its purplish teeth. I think it is the only one in America.

Back of this is a group of nine *C. Aurantias*, all perfect gems but varying in their orange shade. Then on one side is a group of ten specimens of *C. Decipiens* varying from a tan color to the deepest brown, and all of great brilliancy. On the other side is a group of *C. Scabbio* of equal beauty.

Against the back of the case hung the glass covered cases of *C. Nivosa*, *Castanea*, *Coxeni*, *Baivini*, *Beeki*, *Cummings*, *Erythramsis*, *Esontropice*, *Physis* etc., each species in a separate box. Of this family she has three hundred and fifty seven species and varieties, many more than the Philadelphia Academy or the British Museum. She has probably three thousand specimens of that beautiful California species, *Spadicea*, she has one hundred and twenty, from the largest down to the smallest juvenile. She has many varieties in this family, for instance, the largest *Subidinata* known to science and the smallest *Maffa*.

But space will not permit me to describe even a small part of the beauties of this marvelous collection. A simple statement of the number of species in some of the leading families will give collectors some idea of its richness, when they know that each specimen must be absolutely perfect in form and color. Of *Cones*, three hundred and sixty-six of the most beautiful, many being rare and costly. Of that lovely family, always a favorite, the *Mitras*, there are two hundred and ninety-one; of *Olivas*, ninety four, and of the varied and wonderful *Murex* family there are two hundred and forty-seven species, and among them are half a dozen *Palma rosas*, and the rare *Monodon*, *Rota*, *Scorpio*, *Axicornis*, etc.

Perhaps next to the *Cypraea* in richness are the *Volutidae*, of which

there are ninety-five species—a beautiful but costly lot. Of *Purpuras* there are seventy-five species. *Marganellas*, one hundred and eighty-eight. *Nassas*, one hundred and sixty-three, *Columbellas*, one hundred and fifty-eight, *Naticas*, sixty two, *Phaissonella*, thirty-one, *Annullarias*, twenty-six, *Tritons*, fifty-seven, *Strombus*, sixty, *Scelaria*, twenty-eight, etc.

Not least in beauty are the land shells of which there are many hundreds of species of wondrous coloring and form. Then there are two hundred polished *Unios*, fifty or more polished *Haliotes*, etc.

Among the rarities is the largest *Argonanta Argo* known, being about a foot in diameter; also one of the rarest of all the shells, a *Pleusotomaria*.

But I must pass on to the next in importance, viz: the Field Museum. It is a large collection and contains many fine specimens. The museum purchased the shells exhibited at the World's Fair by Prof. Ward of Rochester, N. Y. and have added the collection left by Prof. Carpenter, and several smaller collections.

The shells bought of Prof. Ward are very fine specimens, having been selected during a number of years from the invoices received at the great Ward establishment in Rochester. The number of specimens in the different families is limited however, being only one third of the number of those in Mrs. Williams, in some of the leading families. The collection is unsurpassed in Philippine land shells, the beauty of which is indescribable. They have one hundred and six species and varieties of *Cypraea*. About one hundred and twenty-five of *Murex*, one hundred of *Purpuras* and one hundred and sixty-five of *Cones*. Other families in about the same proportion.

The conchological department has no Curator and does not receive the attention it should have, and consequently does not grow. The museum is very unpopular with collectors, as they are required to check all specimens taken there for identification and call for an attendant before they can take them in, and must be accompanied by an attendant before they can take them out. In all a very picayune policy. The shell cases too covered with cloth, and to see the shells the covers must be rolled up, and as a consequence, nine out of ten pass through and do not see the shells at all. The light may cause them to fade a little, but it would be far better policy to buy a new collection in fifty years than to hide them from the Public. The Paris collection is over a hundred years old and the lack of color is not perceptible.

The next collection is that of the Academy of Sciences under the curatorship of a very capable and courteous man, Frank Collins Baker. Prof. Baker has just published a book on shells which should be in the hands of every young collector. The Academy has about five thousand species of shells and is the best classified and labeled collection in the country. It is right up-to-date.

The Academy has made a special study of the shells around Chicago, and have a large case devoted to them. They have about one hundred and fifty species and varieties of *Cypraea*, many of them rare. The Academy is very popular and has hundreds of visitors every day.

One of our most enthusiastic private collectors is Dr. J. M. Scott. He is president of the Naturalist's Supply Association at 665 W. Lake St. and gets the first pick of the new things that come in for his own col-

lection. His collection is very rich in Terebra and has about every species of which Soursby of London can supply. He is a very busy and rising physician and finds rest by working with his shells.

Another ardent collector is Mr. Jansen, who has secured an immense number of shells, largely by collecting American shells, and exchanging for others in this country and in Europe.

He is a close observer and a hard student, and derives great pleasure from his collection and his studies in natural science.

Among our school teachers are a number of collectors having collections to represent the different families, but not running into species very extensively. One of the largest of this kind is that of Prof. T. Brohm of the Normal school.

One of our oldest and best collectors, A. W. Connors, died about two months ago. The Chicago students of natural history mourn his loss.

My own little collection has been growing slowly for twenty-five years and now numbers twelve thousand shells and five thousand, five hundred species, very few have received more pleasure from collecting than myself. I have of Cyprae, species and varieties, over two hundred, Cones, one hundred and seventy, Pleurotoma and Drillia, one hundred and forty, Nassa, one hundred and twenty-five, Columbella, one hundred and ten, Natica, sixty-five, Nerita, sixty, Cerethium, fifty-five, Strombus, forty-five, Fusus, sixty, Oliva, seventy, Murex, one hundred and twenty-five, Ranella, thirty-four, Spondylers, twelve, Tritons, forty-eight, Purpuras, one hundred and ten, Annullaria, fifteen, Harpas, fourteen, etc. My shells are in wall cases and can all be seen at a glance. They completely cover the walls of a large room. I

have great pleasure in the friendship of and correspondence with collectors. "A fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind."

Gold Pennies.

"That's the oddest looking one cent piece I ever saw," said a near-sighted man as he walked into a cigar store on Chestnut street yesterday afternoon and fumbled over a bright yellow coin.

"Where did you get this?" asked the tobacconist, who had taken the bit of money for examination.

"Street car conductor gave it to me in change—bought an exchange ticket, you know. Is it a good penny?"

"As a penny it is very bad," was the reply, but as an English half sovereign it is worth just \$2.42½.

A gentleman who was standing in the store interrupted the conversation.

"I can match your half sovereign," said he. I got mine from a newsboy this morning. I did not notice what he had given me until the little chap had scampered away, or I would have returned it to him with instructions to put it deep in his sock."

The coins were found to be identical, each bearing the face of King Edward VII. They were of recent coinage, the minting being sharp and no signs of wear apparent. The gold coins are about the size of a copper one-cent piece, and at a casual glance might be easily taken for that baser metal.

Inquiry among the trolley car conductors last night elicited the information that more than a dozen of the half sovereigns have turned up in the course of change making. Many more doubtless have been passed out as pennies, though every new penny is now being well squeezed.

Archaeological Notes on Brant Co, Ontario

By J. LEONARD S. STRONG, A S C C

Brant County was at one time an ideal country for the dusky warrior; some of the finest specimens unearthed have been found in that county. There are numerous well watered creeks that flow into the Grand River all over the county and the fields and hills on the sides of these creeks are eaten into by hundreds of streamlets, the most of which only flow in the spring of the year; but judging from their wide valleys through which they once flowed, they must have "in the grand days of yore" been splendid waterways, containing an abundance of fish, beaver and other game. It is back on these now dried up creeks, (generally on hills covered with a fine reddish sand) that you find the remains and rude village sites of the Neutral or Attiwandrous Indians.

The Neutrals or Attiwandrous seemed to prefer a slow muddy stream in preference to the clear creeks or the wide silvery waters of the Grand River probably because the big creeks and the Grand River formed high ways for the war parties of the hostile Iroquois confederation, I have found tho' several neutral villages sites on the Grand River, and are very difficult to get at by water. In the township Brantford, Brant Co., there is a neutral site on a very high sandy hill over looking the Grand River, and commanding a very fine view of the country round. From this site I have dug up some skeletons, found several broken skulls and other human bones on the surface; there is a considerable quantity of flint and broken arrowheads about, and from this site I procured some

very fine gouges, scrapers and other articles of more or less interest.

The Neutrals were visited by French in the 17th Century, and in many of the graves that have been opened French tomahawks were found, also French copper kettles, and other articles of French manufacture. A farmer while digging a post hole came upon a brass tomahawk of very high finish. On it was the arms of France. While the French held Canada they must have carried on a very extensive trade with the Neutral nation.

Taking them on the whole the Attiwandrous were very good at manufacturing pottery. The material used in its manufacture was common clay obtained from the banks of the Grand River or some creek. The clay was mixed with water so as to form a dough, and mixed with this preparation was a quantity of granite, burnt and pulverized; this gave it a hard surface but if too much granite was added it would increase the liability of the vessels. Pottery must have been valuable to the Indian, attempts to mend a broken pot were made by drilling holes on each side of the crack and binding it together; this was a common remedy for a broken pot. I have a number of broken pots with holes drilled through them for that purpose; pottery must have been very "short-lived" at the best of times judging from the fragments on Indian camp sites. The decoration on Neutral pottery was very simple, straight lines or holes made around the top was all the ornamentation that was done. Pots were very seldom decorated all over, they were made with an oval base. One finds pottery generally in graves, ash beds etc.

Arrowheads are rather plentiful in
(Continued on page opposite "Calcite Caves of Joplin.")

Calcite Caves of the Joplin District

By ERNEST J. PALMER

Calcite is the crystalline form of carbonate of lime, and is chemically identical with the massive form, limestone. It is a common mineral in limestone countries and exhibits a greater variety of crystalization than any other mineral.

The Joplin mining district of southwest Missouri furnishes some of the handsomest and most interesting specimens in the world. Some of these are peculiar to this region, being found nowhere else. Small crystals and masses are found everywhere lining cavities in the rock. Around the city of Joplin in several remarkable caves have been found in prospecting for lead and zinc, the interior of which are lined with crystals of wonderful beauty and great size. These caves were originally filled with water, which furnishes the necessary condition for the formation of the crystals.

In sinking a shaft several years ago within the city limits of Joplin miners broke into a grotto that might have rivaled Alladins Cave for beauty. The roof, walls and floor were covered with crystals of calcite from the smallest size to more than two feet in length, and ranging in color from white, through all shades of amber, to yellow and dark brown. The crystals in this cave were long, spear-like scalenohedra. Many were double pointed, while twin and groups of all kinds were abundant. Some enterprising parties secured the cave and lighted it with electricity for exhibition purposes, but after the first few months it failed to pay and the crystals were finally removed and sold to collectors, most of them go-

ing to the eastern states and some to Europe.

Another cave, discovered less than a year ago, contained large crystals of a new and peculiar form. They are long, truncated hemitropes. The transverse section is diamond shape and the summit of the column or prism is indented; the surfaces are highly polished and the color ranges from pale pink to deep wine. Small specks of pyrite can be seen in many of them. A large number of specimens were secured for the Worlds Fair, The National Museum and other institutions, as well as private collectors. The smallest crystal in the cave measured about two and a half inches and the largest eighteen or twenty.

A more recent find and perhaps the handsomest of all is a cave containing huge compound crystals of color in stalagmitic cones. Many specimens removed weighed over one hundred pounds. The facets have a dazzling polish and exhibit the greatest variety of form.

Some of the artistic treasures of M. Gerome, the famous French painter and sculptor, who died the other day, had a curious origin. When in Constantinople once he was brought into contact with a worthy man who sold most beautiful objects at exceedingly reasonable prices. It turned out afterwards that he was the keeper of one of the Imperial palaces, and had been in the habit of laying under contribution the cabinets entrusted to his care. His end, however, was not encouraging, for one day he was caught in the act and subsequently impaneled.

Brant Co. and include a great variety such as the war point, hunting arrow, bevelled, serrated, etc., etc. Nearly all are made of light and dark grey flint, a very few are made of white flint.

Scrapers seem to be quite plentiful, especially the arrowhead scraper, made out of a broken arrowhead.

I have picked up some very large indeed, the biggest drill that has been found in this neighborhood.

On one Neutral Lap site I picked up some very fine gorgets and also some fire gauges.

Pipes in this county have been very common, and some very fine stone pipes have been found, chiefly with human forms.

On these Neutral sites I have found a great number of bones from different animals, fish, birds, etc. Among the principal animal remains in the form of skulls jaws, ribs, bones, etc. are the blue heron, wild turkey, wild rabbit, porcupine, musk rat, beaver, ground hog, black squirrel, deer elk, moose, otter, mink, wolf, etc., etc.

The tarsi commonly called the leg bone of the blue heron, hawk and wild turkey were frequently used by the Neutrals or Attiwandrous in making pointed instruments, beads, and even pipe stems.

The clam shell must have been very widely used by this nation as I have found quite a number on encampments.

There is nothing so interesting after all, as Indian relic hunting, not only is it healthful exercise but very fascinating and delightful and is a very pleasant pastime in "The Good Old Summer Time."

pounded at Owens College, Manchester, England, a few days ago the results of recent explorations at Abydos in Upper Egypt, from which it appears that the ruins at that spot tell a continuous story that carries us back to 5000 B. C. Abydos was the first capital of Egypt, and remained for fortyfive centuries the religious centre, the Canterbury of the land; and there the Egyptian Exploration fund has unearthed the remains of ten successive temples, one over the other. From the age of the first temple a group of about 200 objects has been found, which throw surprising light on the civilization of the first dynasty. A part of a large glazed pottery vase of Mena, the first king of the first dynasty, about 4700 B. C., showed "that even then they were making glaze on a considerable scale, and, also inlaying it with a second color. The ivory carving was astonishingly fine, a figure of a king showing a subtlety and power of expression as good as any work of later ages."

At about 4000 B. C. an ivory statuette of Cheops, the builder of the Great Pyramid was found, the only known portrait of him. Making every possible allowance for the marvelous rapidity of art development, must not many thousands of years have rolled over between the pristine dwellers in the Nile Valley and the man who carved ivory statuettes and manufactured glazed work inlaid with second colors? It is a long, long march from flint implements to the solemn temple ivory statuettes and human portraits.--The Light of Truth.

Fresh Light on the Worlds Antiquity

Egypt is continually furnishing fresh proofs of the antiquity of civilization. Professor Flinders Petrie ex-

The time to advertise is all the time. The unyielding tenacity of the advertiser brings the yielding product.

Largest Stamp Society in America

**STAMP COLLECTOR'S
Protective Assoc'n
OF AMERICA**

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandlee, Roanoke Va.
Vice-President—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Ill.
Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr

Sales Supt.—W. P. Kelley, 3222 Peery, Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

Auc. Mgr.—H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.

Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn

Trustees—Wilkinson, Estes, Hopson, Omaha

Official Organ—The WEST.

Any stamp collector of good recommendation may become a member by applying to secretary. Benefits: Mutual co-operation for the protection of honest collectors; for the furtherance of philately in general; annihilation of fraud and schemers by exposing them; collecting, investigating and assisting members in any way. Become a member and help us. With every complaint send 4c for purpose of investigation or adjusting your claim if possible to do so. A great many will pay rather than be published

Nominations for officers seem shy, for several suggested that old ones hold over, and hold meeting in St. Louis to get acquainted. Suggestions how to help and better society Sec'y will be glad to hear,. Dwork printer of Perry or Lecompton, Kan., seems to have left for parts unknown for letters to him came back. Last year he was flooded out, and may be such again for P. O. Dept., Topeka reported to have charge of case and those who have claims better send report there at once.

Stamps stolen of U. S. Government Exhibit at Buffalo and person who got them has been sent for 3 years to the pen, name Thimme who was U. S. soldier detailed in connection with Exhibit, located near the stamp display. The best account we have seen regarding this is from Mekeels Stamp Collector, a paper at St. Louis.

Great many sent complaint of L. Ledoux of Kansas City, Ks.

Elgar of Iowa complains of Girger of Cleveland, Ohio. We have a big list for next number unless we hear soon all will get a good notice.

NEW MEMBERS.

B. Callan, Newark, Ohio. S Hammond; Raymond, Texas, Bx. 106. L. Talbot, Chicago, 2320 Calmuet Ave. R. Kraus, Durango, Mexico, Aparto 113. B A Rockwell, Nicholls, S. C. P H Hill, Nashville, Tenn. 229 Sumner. S Lee, Ashtabula, O., Bx 82. T T Williams, Phoenix, Ariz. W A Imbler, Compton, Calif. Correction name W. J. Wark, Marietta, O. Don't forget to take in the meeting in St. Louis Aug. 15 Grand View Hotel. The Southern Philatelic Ass'n meets next day with others. Can see it pays all to attend this meeting and get acquainted and swap or sell. Will find you will learn more in one day than weeks by yourself. Try it.

REPORT OF SALES SUPT.

50 Books in circulation June 5 \$246.68

7 received since value \$38.30

Total 57 \$284.98.

37 Retired since (Sales \$62.93) \$207.42 20 in circulation July 6 value \$77.56.

Should like to hear from members who want to be placed on circuit Many fine stamps at summer prices. Respectfully, W P Kelley, Sales Supt.

FEARLESS AND INDEPENDENT.

The Chicago Record-Herald is a conspicuous example of the success with which the public rewards fearless nonpartisanship in the columns of a great metropolitan daily paper. It is an independent newspaper, in which men and measures are invariably viewed wholly from the standpoint of the public good and not from that of the interests of any particular party. It is the very reverse of neutral—fearless and outspoken on all the great questions of the day, but presenting its editorial opinion upon independent judgment and entirety re-

regardless of political affiliations. Partisanship is barred as strictly from the news columns as from the editorial page. All political news is given without partisan coloring, thus enabling the reader to form correct conclusions for himself. In the ordinary partisan newspaper political news is usually colored to such an extent as to make it difficult if not impossible for the reader to secure a sound basis for intelligent judgment.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Weigel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 18 Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Department of Mineralogy—Forrest Gaines Glendive, Mont.

Department of Conchology (Marine, Atlantic Division)—J. Lewis Wheeler, 30 Lenox Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Conchology (Marine Pacific Division)—Chas. Russell Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Conchology (Terrestrial Division)—Charles Russell Orcutt, 365 12th St., San Diego, Cal.

Department of War Relics—A. H. Bailey, Superintendent, Marietta, Ga.

Department of Entomology—Prof. C. Abbott Davis, 131 Elmwood Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Numismatics—E. L. Bangs, 1401 Clarkson St., Baltimore, Md.

Department of Botany—C. R. Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Archaeology—Arthur B. Coover, Superintendent, Roxabell, O.

Department of Birds and Mammals—**Department of Geology**—F. A. Brown, East Peru, Iowa.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month. The secretary

All honest collectors, whatever be their chosen branch of collecting, except stamps, are invited to join. We do not solicit stamp collectors as members as there are so many good philatelic societies now in existence, but collectors of stamps who collect along other lines also are invited to become members.

Free Identification Bureau for naming

and classifying shells, minerals, fossils, coins, etc., for members only, in charge of a competent superintendent, will examine and name doubtful specimens submitted to them by members.

NEW MEMBERS.

549 Dr. Scott, Chicago Cor Van Buren S. Center Ave. 548 Henry E Lee, Bryant, S. D. 550 A S Abraham, Flint, Mich. 551 A J Webb, Glenn Falls, N Y 552 Dr Goble, Medford, Ore 553 W Hartley, East Pierre, S D 554 Fred Hareselt, Alaa, Hawaii, S I.

Dont' forget Collectors' Day, St. Louis Fair, Aug. 15,. Meets at the Grand View Hotel in the forenoons.



NEBRASKA
PHILATELIC
SOCIETY.222

Nebraska's
Pride.

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy-Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc. Manager,
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262;
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg.
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

Rept. of Sales Supt: During the month of April 41 books were retired, net value \$323.28, sold \$123.06. We would like a few more to try our Dept. and order a trial circuit.

H. Went, Dunlap, Ia.

REPORT OF SALES DEPT.

During the month of May 29 books were retired, net value \$265.06, sold \$88.79. Over 30 books are still in circulation. Why not try our Sales Dept.? Particulars for a postal.

NEW MEMBERS.

Guy Johnson, Albion R R 2.

We hope all members can be present on Collectors' Day St. Louis Aug. 15.

We expect call for nominations in the next number for our next officers.

A Hunter's Strange Discovery

By PEARL ULILA DAVIS

A remarkable story is vouched for by a party of hunters that recently returned from the upper end of Calaveras county, California. The men say they discovered a family of three persons living in a state of almost primitive wilderness. While encamped on the San Antone River, in a very wild part of the country, one of the party wandered quite a distance from the camp, hunting for mountain lions, and at last came upon what he thought was an animal up in the tree. When he approached nearer he noticed that the thing wore a garment of some kind and was rapidly climbing and leaping from tree to tree. Giving chase he gained on the object, until he distinguished the features and form of a child, apparently 10 or 12 years of age, clothed with gunny sacks tied about its waist.

The hunter shouted, but the little fellow scampered down a deep dark ravine, where he was joined by a man and woman similarly attired, all three of whom quickly disappeared by going up a large pine tree.

Anxious to find some clue to their strange actions, the hunter followed as fast as the tangled underbrush would permit. The tree proved to be the habitation of the odd family. Old pieces of burlap had been woven into a peculiar nest shaped like a large hammock, which was securely fastened to the branches, while a similarly shaped basket in another tree held a lot of dried fish, pine nuts, grain, roots and other articles of food.

All endeavors of the hunter to get to the queer trio and cause them to descend were of no avail. The creatures appeared badly frightened, but

made no attempt to attack the hunter. They retreated as he advanced, the man and woman shielding the child from his gaze. But he managed to get a fair view of them and says they were rather smaller than the average adult, had dark skin of the Indian race and were slim and lithe and talked to each other in an unintelligible language. But their hair was unlike the Indian, being rather short and of a tawny color, while the hands and feet were long and clawlike, especially those of the child, which resembled in a great degree the paws of a monkey.

The place had evidently been the habitation of the people for a lengthy period, as a pathway from the tree to the stream nearby and the ground around the tree were worn quite smooth and hard. No cooking utensils, weapons or tools of any kind were visible. The hunter found what he thought to be a seine, it being fashioned out of burlap fastened to a long pole with strands of stout bark. As it was getting dark the hunter returned to his camp and reported to his friends what he had found. The next day the party visited the place where the people had been seen, but the family had disappeared, leaving no trace as to which way they had gone. A number of Indians about there seemed to have known them, but could not understand the language used by the tree dwellers.

MILE IN 32 YEARS.

A postcard, posted in Swindon on April 16, 1872, has just reached the addressee's son, having taken thirty-two years to arrive at its destination, which is considerably less than a mile from the place where it was posted.

Both sender and the man to whom the letter was addressed have been dead for many years.

Carte Mobile Trip Around The World

By M. KELLER

Continued from last Number.

It was also in that prison that she spent the last days before her own execution. This will end my Paris view card with the exception of several Exposition cards of 1900. One showing a Panorama du champs de Mars, another card showing the Chateau d'Eau or Water castle, still another showing the "Pont des Invalides, la Rue des Nations," or the Street of the nations and the street of old Paris, which is seen opposite the Nations Street. Next from Paris we come to a nearby city or suburb, Levallois Perret making our stopping place at a fine Hotel, the "Hotel de Ville" which is shown on card No. 1 from this town. It is one of the modern and swell hotels in that city built in Gothic style. Other cards show streets and other buildings of this town of which I can not say anything, but that it is a pretty town. My next cards from here take us farther away from Paris, eastward to, or near the German border to a town called Ponta Mousson. Here we see the ruins of the Chateau de Monason. This town is situated on the river Moselle, and not far from Nancy. One card from here shows away off at a distance, looming up from a hill top the ruins of an old feudal castle, the history of which I am unable to learn. Card number two shows a scene of the River Moselle, over which is stretched a 61 span bridge, and a good part of the city, the part being called Quartier Saint Martin, probably deriving its name from a large grand church seen in the vicinity. Our nearest trip from here is to an interesting place called Siant Michiel in the

dept. of Meuse, France, situated on the Meuse near Nancy. We get a general Panorama view of the so-called Division of the Monk's place. Later we come to the grand and historical City of Nancy; so famous for its beauty. It is the seat of the Bishop and is also famous for its grand and beautiful Cathedral structure, which looms up gigantically from out the other large buildings seen on a panorama view taken from a church of St. Eupre. Card No. 2 of Nancy shows an interior view of said Cathedral, showing main aisle of same, the general style of architecture of the interior being Romanesque. The exterior looks to be built in Renaissance style, having two ranges of Corinthian and Composite columns flanked by towers. It was built in 1742. Nancy was the scene of a battle in 1477, was taken by the French in 1633, was occupied by Germans in 1870. Card 3 shows a fountain, or rather the Callot Place and fountain, erected in honor of the French engraver and painter Jacques Callot, who was born at Nancy in 1592 and died in the same city March 28, 1635. The statue of the artist occupies the centre of the fountain, on the back, and sides it is flanked by an ornamental wall. Card 4 shows a tomb in memory of Rene II in the Ducale Chapel of the Cathedral. This tomb is a celebrated work of art. It was built by his widow in 1515. It shows the duke kneeling before an altar praying to the infant Christ presented to him by the Madonna. Above the first section of the tomb are the arms of the duke. The panels of the top section show the sculptures of six saints, and yet still farther up are seen the figures of six angels in pairs showing holding various coats of arms.

(To be continued.)

Relic Hunting in New Jersey

By R. BUCKIVS

One summer afternoon a collecting friend and I made a trip to Southern New Jersey in search of relics. We traveled by rail for about an hour, and at last reached May's landing, our objective point. At the station we were met by a villager with a large two seated carriage, who had been engaged to take us to an old Indian village site several miles distant from the railway.

Arriving at our destination we left the carriage, tying the horses to a tree, and walked across a field where we found several pieces of broken Indian pottery. This field was only the outskirt of the settlement, and on we trudged until we came to the site of the old settlement proper. Here the ground was covered with shells and many other broken articles used by the Indians. Not content with the fragments we began looking for perfect specimens.

Here and there in our search broken pottery was found, and all showing that the vessels had borne designs on the outside. Several pieces of pipes were also picked up, but everything found was in some way damaged.

After a while I happened to wander away from my friend to a plot covered with sand, and there seeming little chance of finding anything of value there, I was about to turn away when something to the right caught my eye. On picking it up I found it to be a fine Indian pipe about a foot and a half in length with a bowl two inches deep. It was perfect. Being delighted with my find I turned to look for my friend, but could see him no where. After hunting for a while

I spied him sitting on a sand bank some distance away, examining an object which he held in his hand. Approaching him I was surprised to see that he had found an Indian bowl, broken slightly around the edge, but otherwise in fine condition. He had found also, some beads, of light blue color, quite large and smooth, but not perfectly round. I showed the pipe I had found to my friend, and he grew so enthusiastic over it that I gave it to him.

Returning to the carriage soon after, we found the driver waiting for us, and driving to a farm house near by we were treated to a good country meal. After this we returned to the station and took the first train home. Both of us were satisfied with our trip, my friend especially so; for the relics we had found were nice additions to his large collection.

A TOAST.

F. E. Halbert, So. Berwick, Me.

The first
At rest
The last
The best
Our test
The WEST
All rise

"Our guest
The WEST."

A SKELETON IN ARMOR.

Several people told the writer that up the Maine coast a number of years ago, there was unearthed a human skeleton in a full suit of bronze armor. Historians do not tell us whether the Norsemen wore armor or not; who partially explored the Atlantic coast in the eleventh century. What was done with the suit of armor we were unable to learn. This suggests the question: At what time in the world's history was bronze armour worn by warriors? The writer was

also informed that at near the time of the Maine discovery, there was found near Plymouth, Mass., part of a suit of armor with a skeleton. We are inclined to think, however, that the above information was only a rumor.

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J.
Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg, Lithgow, New York.
Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Austin, Texas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

(Received after other report was printed.)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

The annual convention of our association will take place on Tuesday Aug. 16 and the Grand View Hotel has been selected as headquarters. I hereby appoint Mr. Fred Fuessel of Grandpiere or St. Louis and L. T. Brodstone of Superior, Neb., as Committee on Arrangements and Mr. W. P. Kelley of Kansas City and Mr. Brodstone as Committee on Credentials.

I trust that the convention will be a successful one and I regret very much not being able to be present. This being my last report I desire to thank you all for the interest you have shown in our association and I trust the coming year will prove even more successful than ever.

With kind regards I remain

Fraternally,

F. W. Coning, Pres.

Write to Fred Fuessel of 4417 Gibson Ave St. Louis for rooms at private houses at \$1 each.

THE PHILATELIC FISCAL SOCIETY.

Organized for the benefit of, and in the interests of Collectors of the Fiscal Stamps of All Nations.

Meetings held regularly on the first Monday in each month at 314 West 70th Street, New York City.

Officers for 1904.

President—A. E. Lawrence, 221 South Street, New York City.

Vice-Presidents—E. A. Wood and W. W. Norton.

Secretary—Raymond Wilcox, 226 N. Y. Produce Exchange Building, N. Y. City.

Treasurer—J. H. Petersen, 70 East 121st Street, New York City.

Exchange Superintendent—F. J. Schoof, 74 Bleeker Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Auction Manager—A. Herbst, 106 East 111th Street, New York City.

Librarian—W. J. Salva, 733 Tremont Avenue, New York City.

Trustees—Dr. L. M. Homburger; T. O. Young, Chairman, New Haven, N. Y.; A. B. Kay, A. M. Trujillo, E. A. Wood, J. C. Miller.

Official Journal—The Philatelic West,
For further information and application blanks address the Secretary.

PAY YOUR DUES FOR 1904—\$1.00.

TRY THE EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT, and KEEP HERBST

(our Auction Manager) BUSY.

No Report Received.

A Parisian coin collector is stated to possess an early Christian coin or medalion, bearing every evidence of great antiquity. It is regarded as a Messianic medal of the first century. The inscription in Hebrew characters on the reverse reads "The Messiah, the King, will come in peace." The obverse is supposed to represent our Savior. The specimen is regarded as unique, and to be of a period anterior to the usual run of coins and medallions bearing the figure of Christ. Collectors of Roman coins will know that the coins of the later Roman emperors and the early Byzantine medals often bore emblems and figures of our Savior. and the Virgin Mary.



Camera News



Editor, F. J. CLUTE, San Francisco.

His First Picture

The towerman at the 79th street Crossing of the Grand Central R. R. had just looked at his watch and as it registered 10:00 he concluded that he would have time to slip over to Rafferty's saloon and get a drink before the arrival of the Limited, which was due at 10:25. Unfortunately, the watch had stopped, several minutes before. The country round about 79th street was sparsely settled at this time and the crossing used barely enough to require the presence of a watchman.

After descending the ladder leading to his station, the towerman glanced about furtively as if to make sure that there were no witnesses of his dereliction of duty, and, seeing no one in the immediate vicinity, made his way to the headquarters of the aforesaid Rafferty. That morning one of the boys of the neighborhood, Ralph Bigelow by name, had been made happy by the arrival of a new kodak for which he had been impatiently waiting for a week. His father was a lawyer whose practise was very limited, and it was only after much persuasion that he had consented to purchase the camera.

Within an hour after its receipt Ralph was on his way to the 79th Street Crossing prepared to get a snap shot of the Limited, for there is nothing on earth that is quite so in-

teresting to a boy as a locomotive engine. On arriving there, he selected a suitable location from which to get his picture, and had barely adjusted the focus when a shrill whistle announced the approach of the train. An instant later a man rushed out of the saloon just across the track and started for the tower. In a few seconds the Limited reached the crossing and as Ralph looked up from his camera and pressed the button he was horrified to see an object resembling a human form hurled into the air by the flying train. The young photographer had been so occupied with his work that he had not noticed a pedestrian who had approached from the opposite side of the track, and had been struck by the engine. Sickened by the sight, Ralph hurried away. As he looked back on reaching the corner where he turned toward home, he noticed that the gates at the side of the track were being lowered.

That night the papers contained brief reports of the accident, the victim of which proved to have been an ordinary laborer who resided in the vicinity, and left a large family.

The towerman had been interviewed and had sworn that he had been at his post and performed his duty. As no witnesses had been found, no blame was attached to the Railroad Company.

One morning about a week later, a man entered the office of the Claim

Agent of the Grand Central Ry. That official was absorbed with a pile of documents and glanced up impatiently at his visitor. The latter presented his card, "Bigelow is my name," he said. "I have come to see you in regard to a settlement with Mrs. Brown whose husband as you probably know was killed at the 79th street crossing of your road about a week ago." "Yes, I think I do recall it," said the Agent, "but we can't do anything for her. The gates at the crossing were down, it has been shown and the accident occurred through no fault of the Company. The fellow was probably drunk. I am very busy this morning and you will oblige me by not making any further inroads on my time."

"I am very sorry to encroach upon your valuable time," said Bigelow sarcastically, "but I have a photograph here which I believe will may interest you." Then he added as he produced it from a pocket, "I think that you will agree with me that it is quite a remarkable picture."

"The agent glanced at it and then emitted an ejaculation of extreme surprise as well he might for every detail of the scene of the accident was portrayed with startling clearness. The unfortunate victim was shown in midair, the towerman appeared halfway up the ladder leading to the tower and the gates were in a perpendicular position. "Well," said Bigelow, after a moment had elapsed, "I think that \$20,000.00 would be about right. As my fee will be \$5000.00 you can write a check for \$25,000. As I am very busy this morning, you will oblige me by not indulging in any unnecessary delay."

The agent looked up at his caller, then at the picture and finally reached for his checkbook.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BEGINNERS.

You will need as an outfit, a box of dry plates, two trays, a ruby lamp, a bottle of developer, some hyposulphite of soda and a printing frame. The trays may be of oilcloth, as previously described, and the lamp, though better bought, may be made by putting a ruby glass in a box large enough to contain a small hand lamp. Arrange ventilation so no white light can escape.

Open your box of plates only in the ruby light, working at night with curtains down, if you have no dark room. You will notice one side of the plate is coated with a dull film; place this side front in the camera. After making the exposure, bring the camera into the dark room and, having prepared the developer according to directions on the package, and made up a hypo solution—one ounce of hypo to 4 ounces of water—remove the plate and place it, film side up in the developer. Rock the tray to insure even development, and soon the image will begin to appear. If overexposed it will come quickly, and if underexposed it will work very slowly; and in either case the results will be poor. When properly tinted the picture will show in 25 or 30 seconds.

Develop until the image begins to show on the back, then rinse half a minute in clear water and place it in the fixing bath. Leave it in this a minute or so after the light color has left the back, when it may be taken to the light. Wash through 12 or 15 changes of water, or not less than an hour in running water, then place on edge in a cool place to dry. For your first pictures use the blue or ferroprussiate paper. Place the negative, when entirely dry, in the printing frame film side up, and a

sheet of the paper on that, colored side down. Print in the sun until the shadows are bronzed—a few trials will show you how much—then wash in cold water and place in the sun to dry. Later you can try the more difficult paper.

NOVEL PLATE LIFTER.

Just a little bit of string put across a developing tray lengthwise before putting in the plate makes the cheapest and most effective plate lifter possible. A few inches must be left sticking out at each end to get hold of. Lift these alternately raising the plate half an inch, and you have a rocking apparatus that is "fit for a king."

HOME MADE APPLIANCES.

I would like to advise my readers against the too sanguine acceptance of all that one reads concerning the money saved and the satisfaction to be derived from the manufacture of one's own appliances. The novice in particular, should have a word of warning. I have been through the mill myself. In my salad days I made some wonderfully convenient glass bottomed developing trays. I simply used window glass and had a carpenter get me out some long narrow strips with a groove near one edge. These I simply cut into lengths to fit around the sheets of glass and then put them together as directed. I followed instructions to the letter, even to putting a strip of glass across one end near the top, so that I could tip up the tray and look through the negative without removing it from the tray. The strip of glass formed a trough that kept the developer from spilling out. I am not using these very convenient trays

at the present time; in fact, their completion only antedates my discarding of them by about two weeks. They were clumsy and heavy. Their straight sides caused the developer to slop out and keep the solution full of bubbles if the tray was rocked in the least. The plates stuck to the bottom as if glued there. The joints soon leaked, and various other troubles came with their use. The writer who had described their construction and advised their use, had failed to make mention of a great many things. I am now using the best hard rubber trays that I can buy. They are the cheapest in the long run. I made a ruby lamp about the same time, but I will spare my readers. The manufacturers of these goods understand the business better than I do, and much better than I did at that time. The gist of the matter is this: After you have had a few years experience and know the requirements you can often construct makeshift appliances that will repay you for the trouble, but until then buy what you want and buy a good grade.

AN AVERAGE M-Q DEVELOPER.

Taking 23 different formulas for M-Q developer, for paper, I find, the average per ounce to be as follows:

Water, 1 oz.

Metol, .592 gr.

Hydrochonone, 2.09 gr.

Sodium Sulphite (des.) 10.9 gr.

Sodium Carbonate (des.) 15.6 gr.

I .P. E. 357.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

NEW MEMBERS.

701 G. Johnson, Albion R. R. 702 C. Taylor, Bruning. 703 G. Blakeslee, Eddyville,. 704 W Ackerman, Omaha, 282 Leavenworth. 705 S. Hughes, Omaha. 706 W. Stone, Hardy. 707 Adda Kincher, Guide Rock. 708 C. Brukert, Bruning.

APPLICATIONS.

709. J. Cramer, Wakefield,. 710 M. Learned, Omaha, Bee Building, Omaha. 711 Geo. Gray, Kearney. 712 E. Wyble, Superior 713 A. Glass, Lincoln, 436 S 10 St. 714 Ada T. Walker, Omaha, 1417 N 19 St.

Wolcott of Hobart, Oklahoma, writes that Kruxo paper is the best he has ever used and it will pay all to try it, for biggest bargain of all papers. Try it.

Trust that many of the readers can be at St. Louis August 15th to 18th when those who have hobbies will find at Grand View Hotel, where it will pay you to stop. The Cramer Co. writes that there are no dark rooms on the grounds but some outside near by, nor do they sell plates at the display. We hope to have illustration of their stand, where they invite all to make it their headquarters while in the grounds.


MOUNTING HINTS.

Where it is desired to tint a white mount, coffee in a strong infusion has long been a favorite stain. Where a coffee stained mount appears too bright or obtrusive the addition of a little ink to the infusion will give a cooler, grayer tint. While it would, perhaps, not be the best poli-

cy to introduce any iron chemical—such as is found in ink—to the surface of the print, the presence of a trace of it in the tinting of the mount is not likely to lead to any harm.

A narrow tint border surrounding a photograph is often very pretty and effective. Moreover, it is easy to do home tinting, and in any color which may be desired. Cut a mask the size of the outside edge of the tint and place it on the mount. Then mix a water color of any tint required and dab it lightly around the inner edge of the mask with a tuft of tightly folded cotton rag. The tuft should be damp rather than wet, and the dabbing should be done very lightly, so that two or three applications may be necessary before getting the required depth of tint. This will insure getting the tint absolutely even, without streaks or patches. There is little difficulty in the work; the mask insures that the line of the outer edge shall be straight and even, and no care is necessary with the inner edge, as it is covered by the photograph. The fashion of using several overlapping tints around the print, usually by mounting several papers one over the other, is too complicated for any but an advanced worker, and when attempted seldom leads to quite satisfactory results.

When a toning bath turns purple and a precipitate forms it is spoiling. The black sediment is metallic gold.



Answers

Queries should be addressed to Fayette J. Clute
16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco, California.

Chas. K. B.—Dense Negatives: I think your trouble is entirely owing to the warm season at hand. During the hot weather use developer more diluted, and cold as it works more rapidly when warm, and is likely to produce stain and fog. The developer diluted with water slows the process of development and gives the shadows more chance to work through before the high lights have gained their strength.

M. M. C.—Softening of the Film: Generally this is due to using a bath that has become loaded with silver. As hyposulphite of soda is very cheap, do not use the fixing bath over and over again, but use a fresh solution each time you develop. You will get more crisp negative and it will not be necessary to use hardening solution.

O. T. K.—Pinholes: Be sure the inside of your camera is free from dust and then before placing the plate in the developer, dust it off thoroughly as oftentimes there are small particles of dust adhering to it which prevent the developer from acting upon it, causing fine pin holes in the finished negative.

H. DeG.—Yellow Fog: I think yours is the kind that appears frequently if pyrogallie acid is used as a developer; particularly with underexposed, or forced development. To avoid the same, put the negative, after development, but before fixing, in a bath consisting of 6 grams citric acid, 12 grams chrome-alum, to 1 lit-

ter of water; wash well, and fix as usual. If the yellow fog is not observed until after fixing, wet the negative and pour some sulphohydrate of ammonium over it, until the yellow fog has disappeared. The only disagreeable part of the latter manipulation is the bad odor of the liquid.

P. W. J.—Portraiture: You will have far better success getting portraits of your friends, if instead of getting them in the sun and making a snap shot, as is usually done you will get the subject in the shade of a tree or building and give a little time. This gives an even lighting and avoids an unnatural expression of the eyes.

L. B. J.—Filing Negatives: Many keep them in boxes they came in, pasting a label on each box with a list of the negatives it contains. Perhaps a better way is to place each negative in an envelope of the proper size, writing the name on the flap. Place them on edge in a box, when the desired negative can be readily found by running the hand over the flaps.

WINDOWS IN INTERIORS.

There is another method of prevention halation around windows and one that I have not seen exploited in the journals as yet. When all ready to make the exposure on an interior in which windows are included, hang one thickness of the ordinary red mosquito bar over them. It will not show in the picture and will admit of perfect rendition of lace curtains or other hangings, as well as full detail in the frame and sash of the window. Of course, full sunlight streaming in the window will be a little too hard a test of the value of the scheme, but it is a good one and will succeed where non-halation plates will fail.



**INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
EXCHANGE.**

**With which is Amalgamated the
World-wide Photo-Exchange**

Organized for the purpose of affording its members easy facilities for exchanging photographic prints, and for mutual improvement in the art. President, G. C. Kirkland, - Denver, Colo. Vice-President, A. T. Brown, - Acton, Ont. Can Sec'y, Fayette J. Clute, - San Francisco, Cal. Yearly dues, including exchange notice and subscription to the monthly journal, "The International Photographic Exchange," 25 cents. All who subscribe for, or renew their subscription to the WEST, by sending 50c to Secretary Fayette J. Clute, Marye Terrace, San Francisco, Cal. will be allowed an exchange notice, and full membership in the I. P. E., and receive both publications for one year. Unless the above rule is complied with and subscriptions sent to the secretary, membership cannot be obtained without payment of regular dues.

Note.—W. W. P. E. and I. P. E. members are cautioned not to write these new members without first consulting the regular "Exchange Notices" accompanying their names in the current issue of the "PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCHANGE" as many of them desire only a certain class of prints, lantern slides or stereoptic pictures, and will not honor requests in which such notices have been ignored.

801—C. B. Smith, Box 674, Amarillo, Texas.

802—John J. Tresidder, 199 Cayer Stræet, Brooklyn, N. Y.

803—Geo. H. Awalt 13th Street, College Point, (L. I.), N. Y.

804—Charles Hausman, College Point, (L. I.), N. Y.

805—W. Kilvington, Post Office, Hawera, Taranaki, New Zealand.

806—James H. Miller, Lowville, N. Y.

807—W. B. Crandall, Hardwick, Vt.

808—George H. Maul, Bx 265, Welsh, La.

809—F. A. Woodard, 166 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

810—W. C. Bursn, 219 West Evergreen St, Sanantonio Texas.

811—R. W. King, R. F. D. No. 1, Farragut, Ia.

812—L. B. Elliott, 17 Birr Street, Rochester, N. Y.

813—C. W. Gatchel, Border Plains, Ia.

814—A. T. Hudelson, Louisiana, Mo.

815—Joseph Moder, Long Point, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

816—C. K. Hartzell, Prescott, Ariz.

817—Ralph Tyler, Bx5 5, University Place, Neb.

818—Oscar Jonhson, 7919 N. Broadway, St Louis, Mo.

819—Daniel Baker, 1919 North 25th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

820—D. Wiley, 37 Eliziabeth St., Sydney, N. S. W., Australia.

821—Arthur Hernandez de Becarra, 316 West 23rd St, New York, N. Y.

822—R. W. Taft, 182 Main St., Burlington, Vt.

823—Miss Lizzie M. Smith, 23 South Yellow Springs St., Springfield, O.

824—Miss Hilda M. Satterlund, Bismark, N. Dak.

825—A. J. Swanson, Faribault, Minn

826—Joseph W. Buck, 118 Winder Building, Washington, D. C.

827—Arthur M. Menendez, 75 Hooper St, Brooklyn, N. Y.

828—Thomas Reifenheiser, College Point, (L. I.), N. Y.

829—Harry Baldwin, Terryville, Ct.

830—William T. Knox, 279 Washington St, New York, M Y

831—W. R. Twiford, University Place, Neb.

832—Geo. M. Warren, 232 North Victoria St, St Paul, Minn

833—J. Mardon, Jr, 66 Maywood St, Roxbury, Mass.

834—James Bradford, Dayton, Wash

835—Ezra Fitch, Box 325, University Place, Neb.

836—Arthur M Field, Bx 253, Springfield, Vt.

837—W. L. Chessrown, Box 37, Eaton, Colo.

838—Charles Reesoner, Bx 185, Palo, Mich.

839—H. A. Miller, Box 25, Poplar Bluff, Mo.

840—Chii Kinhow, Bx 540, New Bedford, Mass.



American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.

Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
shipcard sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.

- x Exchange Souvenir Postcard.
- 5008 O Bronson, Topeka, Kan, Bx 27
9 Miss H. E. Case, Cooper Hill,
Tenn, Polk Co.
10 L B Vaughn, Harley, S D
11 A Gillham, Iowa.
12 G C Brunkert, Bruning, Neb.
13 E Long, Ensley, Ala
14 W E Benton, Salem, Ark.
15 F G Karlson, Mead, Neb.
16 E L Bender, Albion, Neb.
17 S S Simms, Benton, Ark.
18 A Duffin, Paradise, Ariz.
19 J Venable, White Bluff, Tenn.
5020 R G Smith, Sawtelle, Calif.
1 J Stambaugh, Oakwood, Ill.
2 M Stanley, Exina, Ill.
3 F J Radetzky, Beaumont, Tex,
148 So St.
4 G Chandler, Osage, Ia.
5 A Mark, Orland, Me.
6 N F Dragoo, Fairfax, Mo.
7 E S Dodds, Alden, Mont.
8 Mrs Linton, Wadsworth, Nev.
9 J Osborn, Hailey, Wyo.
5030 N Atherton, Galetton, Pa.
1 P Rockwell, Nichol, S C
2 A Beck, Horicon, Wis. Bx 26.
3 H Hixon, Venitia, Pa.
4 F Johnson, Oneonta, N Y
5 H Stanley, Pawtucket, R I, Bx
165.
6 F Myers, Elyria, O. Bx 497.
7 C Anderson, Paxton, Ill.
8 T Dillman, Norwalk, Calif.
- x 9 B Marion, Lake City, Fla.
5040 H W Lintz, Hebron, Ark.
x 1 K Lewis, Yokohama, Japan, 136
D Honmura Rd.
x 2 R Oertel, Rose Hill, Tex.
x 3 Dora Gunther, Columbus, Tex.
x 4 C Benton, Kansas City, Mo.
3114 Pasco.
x 5 N S Sims, San Rafel, Calif.
x 6 A A Allain, 2 South Espando,
Greernsy, Eng.
x 7 B Wilson, Rock Island, Ill,
1102, 17 St.
x 8 J McQueen, Mt Vernon, N Y,
x 9 B M Cook, Eolian, Tex.
x5050F Postema, Groningen, Holland.
x 1 Pearl U Davis, Stockton, Calif.
x 2 W Roscow, Adroque, Buenos
Aires, S A.
x 3 E Towle, Hammond, Ind, 36
State.
x 4 C Hargraves, Lincoln, Neb.
1729 M St.
x 5 V M Mozian, N Y City, 45 Bea-
ver St.
x 6 Miss Lynch, Cleveland, O, 602
Hikox bdg.
x 7 E H Horne, Newfield, N H
x 8 E Eberman, Bethlehan, Pa, 105
Laurel St.
x 9 Miss Whyte, 17 Willton Ave,
Chiswick, Eng.
x5060 H Wolcott, Hobart, Okla Bx 161
1 G Hosmer, Sayre, Okla.
2 J C Gallagher, St Louis, 4232 A
Evans.

- 3 J Farland, Sandersville, Miss.
- 4 R Graham, Stockton, Kan.
- 5 J Gable, Kansas City, Mo., 621
Freeman Ave.
- 6 E Pecher, West, Ia. Bx 48.
- 7 F B Miner, Corning, Ia.

Photographic Show Windows

By RICHARD HINES, Jr.

Those who have essayed to photograph show windows in the daytime know how impossible it is to get good results on account of the reflections, which cannot be overcome except with a black sheet to rig up the opposite side of the street against which the photographer must do the work. Such an expenditure can be left to the professional, who can get good dollars for this sort of work; but the amateur can get very good results and some pleasing pictures from this work of photographing show windows, if he will turn his night into day and do the work at night by the aid of the electric lights which are now universally used to illumine such windows.

If it happens that the proprietor of the store puts out his lights before you get around, he will generally light them for you upon promise of a print, and will often take more and pay for them. The photographing of one set of three windows in this way brought in a ten dollar note to one young amateur of my acquaintance.

People walking between the windows and the lens will make no impression on the plate, if they do not stop and linger along. Use a nonhalation plate, or make yours so by using Newcomb's nonhalation backing. Give full exposures, which vary

from three to ten or more minutes according to the intensity of light, character of lens and stop used. A wide open lens is preferable for this class of work, but sometimes the situation compels the stopping down of the lens to counterbalance the use of the swingback and the elevation of the front board. I have not yet had a chance to use the kodoid plate on this work, but its use in other similar directions leads me to believe that it will be found to give fine results.

Develop your plate for the shadows; that is, use a very dilute developer to start with, increasing its strength to get density as the developer progresses. Print on any paper giving black and white effects and you will be pleased with the results.

There is good money in this work to any amateur who has a few hours at night to give to it.

Notes from the Illinois College of Photography

Mr. R. V. Wagner of Wichita, Kans., student of 1903, who has been employed at the Jay studio at Paris, Ill., made us a visit on his way west. He has many experiences to relate, and expects to open a studio at an early date.

Miss Pearl Wolff, student of '02, has opened an elite studio at Yonkers, N. Y., and reports success beyond expectations. Miss Wolf is a good artist and a clever lady and her patronage will continue to grow.

Prof. Raymer recently made a short business trip to St. Louis.

Mr. Frank Adams, a student during the past year has secured a position as operator in a leading studio of Portland, Me.



A PAPER THAT KEEPS.

I have just made some prints on a sample of paper that was sent me about two years ago by the Kilborn Photo Paper Co, Cedar Rapids, Ia. Using the same developer that I employ with all gas light papers and without any precautions as to fog or markings expected to come as a matter of course with old paper, I secured as clean, brilliant prints as I could wish. The paper had been kept in an ordinary club locker, in fact it had slipped down to the bottom and been lost for the time mentioned. Kruxo certainly is a fine paper and should be given a trial by all desirous of using the best in that line.

You will find in our advertising pages the announcement of a Correspondence School of Photography and you should send for one of their prospectuses. The gentlemen in charge have been known to me by reputation for a number of years. Their instruction is certainly worth many times its cost to anyone interested in photography. Figure out the cost of your material for a year and then estimate its return in knowledge gained by blindly experimenting without instruction. Take a tenth part of this material and add to it the cost of a course with the school and figure what you could learn in six months and I think you will see the advantage of looking into the matter. Get in touch with them and if they do not make the proposition a tempting one, it is their fault. They are

very anxious to secure a number of WEST readers and if you write, saying you are one of our readers you will be made to feel that you were well advised in doing so.

I want to say a word this month for a plate that should be given a trial by every reader of the WEST who has not already done so. Cramer's New Banner X Plate has been on the market for some time. I would have given it a thorough trial long ago but could see reason for wanting anything better than the Crown brand made by the same firm. I have used them for several years. Recently I found a dealer out of the Crown and so took a dozen of the Banner X, feeling that anything made by the Cramer people was sure to be a good plate. They, the Banner X, are all and more than has been claimed for them. They work clear and clean, are coated with a good rich emulsion and seem to develop themselves if anywhere near a correct exposure has been given. They do not pile up density in the high lights before the shadows gain detail and yet any degree of density can be obtained by simply developing a little further.

SOME POINTERS OF VALUE.

When plates are exposed and set away for future development, be sure and put them face to face as if they were in the original boxes. If they are placed film back, you will probably have finger marks on the film caused by the fingers coming in contact with the backs of the plates when placing them in the holders.

Do not wrap them in newspaper before packing them away, as frequently the printing will be communicated to the film.

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist.

The Photo-Exchange Bulletin and Curio Monthly

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 18000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Stamp Collectors Association, New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Union Souvenir Card Society, etc.

Vol. 27

AUGUST 1904

No. 3

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 2825 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Manchester, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT: C. A. NAST, Cor. 16 and Curtis, Denver,

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOCARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Manchester, Wis.

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

Woman Collectors Dept.—Miss C. Hanway, Dallgs, Pa., Bx 156

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 36 prominent societies. **THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER.** The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

"Now is the time" to get your Advertising in to get the Best Fall Buyers. 5c WEST is Represented at 20 Stands at the St. Louis Worlds Fair. It will pay Advertisers to try it. IT REACHES READERS NO OTHER MAGAZINE HAS.

E D I T O R I A L

Catalogue de Timbres Fiscaux, from the well known Paris house of Yoert & Fellier is at hand.

As a guide to the collecting of fiscals this little volumn is indispensable. We say little, although there are 600 closely printed pages, all of the highest mechanical excellence as pertains to typography. It has been said that revenue stamps would be more popular but for the lack of catalogue. This plaint cannot now be entered. We look forward to a boom in this fascinating field now that a suitable reference book is available.

D

The cartoons and drawings recently appearing on the cover and pages of the WEST, the work of Mr. W. G. McIntosh, of Mt. Airy, N. C. have received much favorable comment from our readers, and to these we wish to say that their request for more of his work is to be granted. He has several ambitious ideas now in the process of being transferred from mind to paper and these will be reproduced in the WEST in due time.

D

R. G. McGill of Chicago, in a recent letter states that he has been using space in the six stamp publications known as the leaders and finds upon consulting the card index record of the returns from these ads that the WEST leads. Such an encomium is not flattery, for there can be no flattery where the truth is spoken. This leads up to the ever pertinent question, "Do you advertise in the WEST? If not, why not?"

D

A well known western dealer recently stated that he virtually depends on the WEST for summer business, his ads being permitted to run in other mediums merely to keep his name before their readers, no business resulting. This information was merely a casual conversation, but is really the experience of scores of dealers. You may see the reason in the WEST itself, its diversified contents of lighter vein making it a welcome summer visitor to the sweltering collector who finds no inclination for reading the heavier matter common to any publication worthy of comparison.

C

Whenever we hear of a reader complaining that the WEST does not suit him—and such complaints are few, to be sure—we say to him, "Well tell us what your wants are and we will try to fill them". What are your wants dear reader? Perfectness is not our roll, but we do endeavor to give our subscaibers the best and lots of it. If you don't see what you want, ask for it. We are here to please.

D

'Tis rumored that a move is on foot to start a systematic canvass

for members for the Stamp Collectors Association in the earnest expectation of having 1000 enrolled by next convention time. This is a laudable purpose and we see no reason why accomplishment cannot be confidently anticipated. The officers are certainly capable and their effort should be enthusiastically seconded by every member.



Ask some friend to subscribe to the WEST; Send us the 50c and we will also enter your name in our books for a years subscription. If already a subscriber we will extend your time a year. Think of it—a dollar magazine a whole year free. Will you accept such a generous offer.

A mild sensation has been created in European philatelic circles by the discovery of secret marks in certain Hungarian stamps the discoverer, Arthur Szecsy, has continued his researches and details them as follows in No. 6 of Die Post. On the stamps of the engraved issue of 1872 the secret mark is found in the shape of a rather heavy dot in the right corner of the face, from the point about 1 1-2 mm below the beard. This mark is found on all values of this issue as well as on reprints and proofs. On the lythographed issue of 1871 the mark is not found, I cannot say whether not at all or elsewhere.

On the 1, 2, 3 and 5 Krona stamps of the present issue, the mark is no doubt found protruding on the right lower part of the stamp which surrounds the portrait, between the S and T of Posta. The mark extends inwards and may be found on all four values in this place.

The secret mark of the current newspaper stamps is found on the wavy line under the word Hirlapjegy between P and J. The mark which is sometimes thinner, has sometimes the form of a dot, sometimes that of a line, usually extending inward, though I have found copies on which it is hardly visible, but these are imperfectly printed copies.

Thus something new turns up all the time, sometimes about the very commonest stamps. You may easily be the next to discover something if you study your stamps.

With the much-to-be-lamented suspenson of the Argentine paper, Nilatelia, gains in importance. It now devotes special attention to Argentine fiscals to make up for the disappearance of the Revista with its continued catalogue of these fiscals; fortunately it appears that there is a prospect of this catalogue being completed by private enterprise.

Inscriptions on Stamps BY L G D O R P A T

Continued from last number.

In 1876 new designs were introduced. The 5 rin, 1, 2, 3 and 4 sen have the value in the centre. In the oval band at the top we read from right to left: "Tai-Nip-pon-Tei-Kokn-Yu-bin": Japanese imperial state post. Tai means great, *nichi* or *nip* means sun or day, *pon* means origin, *tei*; imperial, *Koku*; state, *yu*; post, *bin*; facility. It shows fine patriotism that the Japanese call their country "Great sun origin." This inscription remains the standard on all designs up to the present time. On the 2s of 1893 it is modified, reading: *Nippon-tei-Koku-Yu-bin-kitte*, which is nothing new. The silver-wedding stamps of 1894 have above the chrysanthemum: "Tai- Kon- Ni- ju- go- Nieu - Shuku-ten": Great-Marriage-Twenty-five-years-Celebration. The 3 sen marriage stamp of 1901 has on the right side downwards: "To-gu-guo-Kon-gi-shuku-ten;" heir apparent honorable marriage ceremony ("To-gu" means literally "eastern palace" but has the meaning "heir apparent" also — why? Probably because the eastern palace is the official home of the heir apparent.), and on the left side downwards "Tai-nip-pon-tei-koku-yu-bin" but in modified characters, resembling very much the same inscription on the issue of 1899 1900. In the upper corners of the lower values of this issue is a peculiar ornament resembling a child's rattle-box; this is a couriers' bell; on the one on the right side is the somewhat intricate character: "EKI", courier, and on the one on the left side is the equally intricate character: "REI", bell, both together making: "EKI-REI" courier's bell. This issue has

the value under the chrysanthemum with the exception of the 1 yen that has the value in upper corners.

What the upper corners of the intermediate values contain (8 sen to 50 sen) I can not discern. (Envelopes cards and wrappers, we may as well leave for some time. Corea being "in the public eye" at present we shall make a trip there next, or rather to the stamps of Corea).

The surcharge on Japanese stamps used in China during 1900 reads: "SHI-NA:" China.

COREA is now very prominent in the public eye. Korean stamps will therefore, no doubt, receive more attention now than ever before. There was an old issue of 5 values in 1885, but two of them, the 5 and 10 now only were ever used. The inscription is in Chinese and Korean. The value of the 5 now is "Wu-Wen" in large Chinese characters at both sides. At the top in the long oval tablet we have: "To-Chao-Hsien-Kno-Yu-Ch'ao" or "Tai-Cho-Sen-Kuk-U-Ch'o," meaning the great Korean state mail stamped paper, or, in short, Korean official postage stamp. The first pronunciation is Chinese, the second Japanese. The Korean pronunciation is probably a little different yet. At the two upper corners and at the bottom we have Korean inscriptions which I can not read; but we may safely infer what they mean, to wit., 5 mon Korean official postage stamp. With the other values it is about the same, only the inscriptions vary in position. Used stamps of this issue are very rare, on account of a revolt which destroyed the whole postal innovation shortly after the issue was made.

Specimens of the 25, 50 and 100 mon, offered as used, can safely be designated as fraudulent products.

In 1895 a new issue was made, and this time, under Japanese influence,

came to stay. Chinese character appear at the top "Chio-Sion-U-Pio" Korean Postage Postage Stamp. The last character, "Peo," differs from the last "Ch'o" on the first issue and stands for stamp. The same is repeated in Korean at the foot, and the value is given in Chinese at the left and in Korean at the right. In 1897 and 1900 these stamps were surcharged "Tai-Han" in Chinese at the top and in Korean below. The surcharge means "Empire of Korea." In 1900 to 1901 a new issue was made with separate designs for the different values. The Chinese Characters here read "Tai-Han-Tei-Kuk-OU-Pio:" Imperial Korean postage stamp. The surcharges on stamps of this issue are doubted both in regard to their origin and meaning. I have not seen any in reality, and Scott does not illustrate them. Ko's illustrations in this instance are very indistinct. Can any reader of the WEST supply definite information? In 1902 another new issue made its appearance, consisting of 13 values with essentially the same inscriptions as before. It seems that the postal business of Korea has greatly increased, otherwise so many values would hardly be necessary. Why Scott has omitted this issue I do not know. The surcharges of 1, 2, and 3 chenu on stamps of the issue of 1895 I do not know what they were made for except it be to use up the old stock of remainders. In 1903 a Jubilee stamp was issued to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the accession of Emperor Yi Huing. The Japanese surcharge on Japanese stamps for use in Korea (1900) is "Cho-Sen," the Japanese name for Korea.

FORMOSA, should Japan be defeated in the present war, might become the prey of some other power. At present Japanese stamps are used

there. Scott's catalogue gives three cuts of stamps for this Island. The first is a big label, divided into four spaces. The one on top has from right to left "Ch'uan-Tai-Kung-Po-P'iao'z': Formosa public communications label. This inscription probably caused collectors to consider the label as a stamp. There is no value, and the German catalogues do not list the label. In the space at the right we have at the top (If I read right) "Chi" send, and at the bottom "Tso-Pao" make announcement. It is the same as Kung-Pao at the top and means public. In the middle space or column we have at the top "Chi": recovering or account and at the bottom "Tzu": written characters. The meaning of this is not clear to me, but evidently the free space is left to be filled in by hand, and to this the characters refer. In the left hand space we read from above downward "Kuang-Hsu-Nien-Yueh-Nichi." The last character I can not identify. Kuang-Hsu is the period of time from 1875 until the present, Nien is year, Yueh is month and Nichi day.

The inscription on Scott's second cut is too indistinct to read. The third cut is essentially the same as the first, only the inscription is differently arranged and greatly repeated. Some of the characters may be easily recognized as such which we had before.

The four thin and complicated diagrams in the large space at the top are "Tai-Wan-Yu-P'iao" Formosa mail label. It has no value expressed, and is hardly to be classed as a postage stamp. It is rather a blank form similar to the yellow labels of the American Express Co. If any of the readers have a copy of the second cut, I should be very glad to see it.

Something About Map Stamps

Henry Herbert Huff

Just now the subject of "Map stamps" is of more than ordinary interest to us, the authorities of our own country having recently seen fit to issue a postage stamp of this kind. In view of the fact that a majority of the map stamps that have been issued did not prove a success it was little surprising to some that the ten cent value of the St. Louis series did not receive the measure of universal favor that the authorities expected.

The 1898 2c map stamp of Canada is probably the one with which collectors are most familiar. The stamp was issued to signalize the introduction of the Imperial Penny Postage which was inaugurated at Christmas time that year.. This stamp was far from a success being the object of much criticism and unpleasant comment. The use of the abbreviated form "Xmas" instead of "Christmas" met with much disfavor as Christmas loses its real significance when that term is applied, to the day. The Canadian business men registered the same complaint against it that some Americans do with the St. Louis map (and other values of the set) that it was too large and required too much licking. Still greater trouble was experienced in the printing (but not much criticised by the Canadians and British). Difficulty in getting each plate accurately registered caused the red (which was used to denote the possessions of England) to extend southward on some specimens covering part of the U. S. to appear in parts of the sea where no islands really exist. and to extend into the ocean beyond the

coast of Cape Colony.

Two years previous to this (1896) Nicaragua gave us some map stamps the design on which showed us plainly the location and extent of that little country. At about this time Columbia sent forth an issue bearing a map of the Panama region and surrounding country. In order that stamp collectors (?) might have some idea of the portion of the earth in which New South Wales is located the people of this little British colony gave us a map stamp some years ago which bore a map of Australia showing the boundries of the various provinces into which the island is divided that of New South Wales being particularly noticeable.

Venezuela has issued a large map stamp printed in light green but the inscription appearing on it does not seem to give a reasonable explanation for its appearance. Few words appear upon the map but the numerous heavy and dotted lines, lead us to suppose that it was issued to show the boundary line of that country.

The recently issued map (1900) stamps of Dominican Republic came near being successful in causing a war for that little republic. In their endeavor to show other nations how big Dominican really is, the Dominicans made the boundary of Dominican extend a short distance into the territory of the people of Hayti; which republic as most of the readers remember, occupies the western portion of the island. Thinking their republic small enough without Dominicanans attempting to annex part of it to their own, the Haytians compelled the government authorities of Dominican to withdraw the untruthful map issue. Had the Dominicanans

Why I Collect Stamps

BY H C JENNINGS



Why I collect stamps has become quite a question in my mind since I have been thinking of writing on the subject. I am positive of one thing however

and that is, that it is not a financial question, because even though I have often wondered how much my collection would sell for, I am more than sure I would not sell it, even though I were offered a good margin above what the actual value would be.

There is a pleasure that can not be described in looking over the leaves of an album and thinking of the hard chases one has had over the capture of an especially desired copy and you again and again feel the tinge of pleasure as you turn the pages and see here and there copies of stamps that may take you back to your early boyhood days and bring back sweet recollections that might have been lost forever if it were not for these continuous reminders you have of the time gone by.

It seems to me that Philately would be a sordid occupation or pastime for anyone if they were only collecting from a financial standpoint.

Think of the world of education one can derive from a careful and systematic study of stamps and of the amount of good to the younger collectors if once in awhile they would get an encouraging word or helpful hint from some older person, instead of a laughing jesting answer and how little some people know about what they are jesting.

There is lots of good that can come from collecting stamps, for the young

boy or girl if they are helped and showed how to collect in the right manner.

I think the fever of collecting is in everyone to a certain extent for who ever saw a boy that did not collect something, even if it were of no more interest than cigar box lids. He is bound to collect and if we were to train him to use his energy in collecting something which will prove a source from which a lot of education can be derived as well as pleasure, and then at last if it must be a financial question can be considered. But I have no sympathy for the speculative collector at all as he never has any true love for his stamps for he only sees a money value in them and loses all the true collector's spirit when he is considering all the time how much profit he will make in his collection. He is nothing more than a gambler in stamps. Now don't confuse my meaning by considering one who sells stamps. He is a dealer, not a collector and it is his business not a hobby. Now in ending I will say that if we encourage collecting at all let's work together to collect not from a financial standpoint but rather from a educational one and then only, will we meet collectors whom it is a real pleasure to sit down with and have a good friendly chat on the stamp question, and when collectors like that meet they never fail to learn something from one another, but go away with a deeper and broader view of their pet hobby and not have that disgusted and bored feeling, which listening to a speculative collector always causes one to have.

So hoping if this should meet the eye of any young collectors, that it may at least influencing them in the right direction, and that the time is not far away when stamp collectors will all collect for the same reason.

Hit and Miss Papers By Verna Weston Hanway

NO. IV.—PHILATELY—ITS REAL VALUE.

I crave the readers' indulgence for approaching this well worn subject in these "papers." My plea, however, will I think, justify my action. Too much cannot appear in philatelic journalism. This is especially true in regard to a journal like the "Philatelic WEST and Camera News," where so large a portion of its readers are engaged in other forms of collecting.

Philately primarily is a hobby, at an advanced stage still a hobby, but more a science. The object of a hobby is to afford a pastime, a study, or a mental relaxation. Philately according to this definition is an ideal hobby.

Doctors and scientific men have all owned the benefits which accrue to those who have a hobby.

The benefits are obvious. A hobby delivers a man entirely from the monotony of life, the depressing perpetual round of duty, the stagnation. It sharpens and vivifies the faculties. It delivers one from narrowness and onesidedness—from the evil of viewing everything from one standpoint, which becomes natural to one who occupies the same rut month after month, and year after year.

There is not a man in the country who if he but had a hobby would not be a better and more contented man. There is not a jaded and fretted housewife who would not be happier, and enjoy better physical and mental health, if she but had a hobby to deliver her from the petty, monotonous, drudgery, of domestic cares. There is not a boy who would not develop better tendencies if he but had a clean healthy hobby to take his spare

coin and keep him engrossed. There is not a girl who would not be in better health, physically, mentally and morally if she but had an engrossing hobby to occupy her leisure moments. And what advantages does not philately possess as a hobby for all! To the thoughtful, delving student it possesses unlimited possibilities. As a pleasant pursuit and pastime it is equally valuable. Take it anyway you wish, as a science, as a pastime, it owns and has no superiors.

And what do not the "wee bits" teach! System, politics, languages, coinage, history, paper and printing, art, botany, zoology, customs, manners, habits of all nations—and what not!

And the charm, the undescribable fascination, this is peculiar to itself.

Philately is essentially a hobby for cultivated people. Among philatelists one finds the most cultured people the world over. Rulers, noblemen, noted men and women, writers, artists, doctors, lawyers, bankers, merchants, keen business men, college professors, college graduates, the clergy, etc., etc. Philately only appeals to such. It is an educating hobby, an artistic hobby which requires study and observation. A hobby appeals only to the esthetic sense. It is food for the brain, for the intellect.

The philatelic societies are of the best, as is our literature. Both hand in hand are striving to promote philatelic knowledge and philatelic prosperity.

In the catalogue philatelists possess the advantage of a standard by which may be measured the value of their possessions. In this philately has an advantage over all other forms of collecting. True our catalogues are not models of virtue, rather examples of continual erring. Still we

have a list of postal issues and a valuation which although very seldom correct might be worse. Until the "ideal catalogue" becomes a reality the majority of collectors will content themselves with this.

I could go on thus attempting to estimate the real value of philately for hours. But what would be the use? It would not strengthen the old collector in his allegiance for he has already wandered into philately's Clysian fields. And as for the new collector, or the non collector, I have said enough to give him a glimpse of real philately.

Just before the siege of Paris, and every collector should be well read on this interesting bit of history, a society of pigeon faciers sent 900 carrier pigeons into Paris to carry mail. A part of these were liberated the first week of the siege, with letters and official communications. They were taken out of Paris by balloon, and carried news back to the beleaguered city. But this pigeon post was not so successful as anticipated. Out of more than 200 pigeons sent out of the balloons, only 73 ever returned. Of this number five had no dispatches, ten conveyed the simple news of the safe arrival of the balloon, and three carried messages which had been sent by the Germans, who captured them, substituted the messages and started the birds on their way again.

Advertising brushes the cobwebs off, and is an apt reminder that your goods are still for sale.

"Nothing except a mint can make money without advertising."—Gladstone.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL AND OTHERWISE

There are 74,169 postmasters in the United States.

The word "Anotido" on the 1868 issue of Mexico means registered or accounted for.

Mauritius was the first British colony to issue adhesive stamps and was also the first British colony to issue surcharged postage stamps.

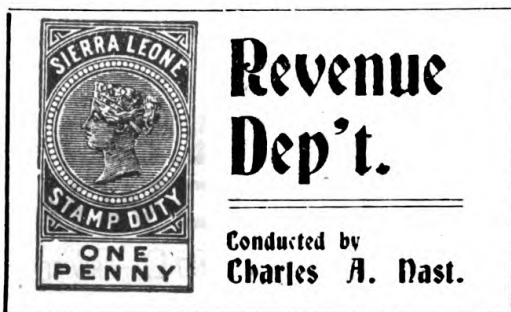
Although King Christian IX of Denmark has ruled for forty years, his portrait has never appeared on any stamps.

The nine stars on the stamps of Bolivia have a significance; each one stands for one of the nine republics of Bolivia. These nine republics are Atacamba, Beni, Cherquisaca, Cochambamba, La Paz, Potosi, Urro, Santa Cruz and Tariza.

For forty-six years the portrait of Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria has been used on the stamps of that country and that of Queen Victoria was printed on the stamps of Great Britain for sixty-one consecutive years.

The Republic of San Salvador must be credited the doubtful honor of having issued more varieties of postage stamps than any other country, the number being 404 to date.

A machine which reproduces stamps in their natural colors and enlarges the same is called the amphe-migiscope, and is being used by a number of specialists.



In my notes last month, I asked for information regarding a certain proof impression of a private proprietary stamp of the Civil war series but I must say I was disappointed at the meagerness of response which the description called forth. Only one collector answered the query, and he is a specialist in U. S. and a very busy man, engaged entirely in business, yet he found time to write me a very entertaining note about a whole list of these rarities. I cannot think it is lack of interest, but must believe it is absence of information about such an important matter to collectors of U. S. Therefore I will now give a list of stamps engraved by the U. S. Government for private proprietors and issued in the regular way, but which were never delivered for various reasons, either failure to pay for the dies, over failure of the firms in business, near approach of the time for repeal of the law, or other causes. I take this list from E. B. Sterling's catalog of 1888, who formerly owned all the following specimens in proof but which are now in the possession of Mr. H. E. Deats.

MATCH STAMPS.

Value	Color	Description	size in MM
1c black		Eisenhart's matches	21x25
1c blue		" "	21x25
1c green		" "	21x25
(Same design as J. W. Eisenhart without J. W.)			
1c black		Electric Match Co	21x25

1c blue	Electric Match Co	21x25
1c green	" " "	21x25
(Same design as Alex Underwood & Co.)		
1c black	Jones Eugenia & Co	21x25
1c blue	" " "	21x25
1c green	" " "	21x25
1c vermillion	" " "	21x25
(Same design as 1c Greenleaf & Co.)		
1c black	King E W St Paul Minn	26x27
1c blue	" " "	" "
1c green	" " "	" "
(Same design as the Cannon Match Co' approved November 19th, 1875.)		

MEDICINE STAMPS.

1c black	Bazin	90x20
1c blue	" "	" "
1c green	" "	" "
3c black	" "	" "
3c blue	" "	" "
3c green	" "	" "
4c black	" "	" "
(Same design as 2c blue)		
6c black	Barnes, Demas	87x18
6c blue	" "	" "
6c green	" "	" "
(Portrait of Barnes, Drakes Plantation Bitters,)		
4c black	Evans C. M. Phila.	51x13
4c blue	" " "	" "
4c green	" " "	" "
(Dr. Hooflands German Bitters)		
4c black	Gounod E. J. et cie.	36x14
4c blue	" " "	" "
4c green	" " "	" "
(Sandaline Elixir De Sandaline, approved April 9th, 1879)		
1c black	Halloway & Co.	71x21
1c blue	" "	" "
1c green	" "	" "
1c Vermillion	" "	" "
(Portrait at left of Halloway (?))		
3c black	Laird Geo W oval at top	53x84
3c blue	" " "	" "
3c lake	" " "	" "
(Maiden facing left with flowing hair)		
4c Black	Pieters Bennett & Co	148x13
4c green	" " "	148x13
4c red	" " "	148x13

(Portrait of Pieters in center facing right)

4c black	"	"	15x41
4c blue	"	"	"
4c green	"	"	"
4c verm'l'n	"	"	"

(Face of man with full beard, body of horse)

4c black	University medicines	20x26
4c blue	"	"
4c green	"	"

(Portrait of Proprietor in Center)

4c black	Jones J. W.	19x23
4c blue	"	"
4c green	"	"

(Winslow's J. W. J. Green corn).

PLAYING CARDS.

4c black	Lawrence and Cohen	22x29
4c blue	"	"
4c green	"	"
4c green	"	"

(Same design as 5c stamp approved May 2nd 1865.)

Now of the foregoing list, of all of which proofs exist a few reached a higher stage namely, the stamps themselves were actually printed. Of this class Mr. Sterling notes the following: 1c black E. W. King; 4c black C. M. Evans; 4c black E. J. Gounod; 4c black J. W. Jones; and the 4c black Lawrence & Cohen. The question may here well be asked, why are these five stamps not catalogued just the same as the 2c blue Bazin, and the 5c brown Catreeseon Brotz & Co.,? for these latter, as our catalogue tells us were never placed in use. Look at the prices listed opposite the last two and then imagine what the above five would be worth if certain interested parties had a few copies of each. It will not ever thusly be.

ENORMOUS FLOOD OF REVENUE STAMPS.

Every day the internal revenue bureau in the treasury department at Washington receives from the bureau

of engraving and printing nearly 300,000 sheets of stamps. Daily shipments often aggregating four to six tons of these stamps, are made to collectors of internal revenue all over the United States. The revenue bureau has continually on hand in its great vault some \$75,000,000 worth of stamps, varying in denomination from as high as \$1000, during the Spanish-American war down to the fraction of a cent. Every precaution is taken to safeguard and properly dispose of these many and varied issues, and once every three years a formal inventory and a general accounting are in order. The latest triennial stock taking occurred recently, and it proved a colossal task, as nearly \$10,000,000 worth of the tokens had to be accounted for. It was a great satisfaction to Commissioner John W. Yerkes, the able head of the bureau, that everything balanced to a cent.—Leslie's Weekly.

In a recent number of Mekeels Weekly J. D. Bartlett has an excellent article on Lock Seals of the U. S. Int. Rev. Department. Mr. Bartlett is an enthusiast on all the side issues of U. S. such as lock seals bank checks, stamped paper, etc. He asks that those who are similarly interested will correspond with him. His address is 270 Niagara St., Buffalo, N. Y.

The June number of Morleys Philatelic Journal concludes its exhaustive review of Dr. Perry's paper on the U. S. Rev. stamps for the Philippines published first in the A. J. of Philately. This journal is doing great service in the cause of listing, classifying, and arranging fiscal stamps from all over the world. Of course the American colonies furnish much interesting matter.



DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY.

By L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis.

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

180. Answering query No. 180 in the May number of the WEST Mr. H. C. Beardsley of St. Joseph, Mo. sent me a copy of his "Stamp Dealers' Directory and Stamp Buyers' Guide" in which on 12 pages he gives an alphabetic list of dealers in U. S., Canada, Mexico, England, Ireland, Scotland, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Norway, Spain and China. On the last two pages is a list of Weeklies, Monthlies, Semi-monthlies, and Quarterlies published in the English language. It contains also some advertisements. On December 1st 1904 a second issue is to appear. No reliable dealer should fail to get his name into the new issue and no advertiser should fail to get a copy of it. Mr. Beardgley issued a "Philatelic Dircetory" with 1200 names some years ago and still has a few copies on hand. If we consider how much these directories help to show to what enormous proportions our hobby and the traffic in stamps has grown, it seems to me every lover of the pusrsuit should do all in his power to aid the editors in makinfg their directories as complete as possible and the publishers in getting their publications before the collecting public.

192. "Why are the 3 cent U. S. stamps present issue canceled differently and heavier than the other

stamps of these riems?" There are two reasons for this. First, the 3 cents is not ordinarily used on letters, otherwise it would be canceled the same as other stamps that are. Being used on parcels, sometimes of odd shape, a hand-dauber is applied to the 3 cents while letters go through the canceling machine. Second, the color of the 3 cents being a dark purple does not contrast with the black of the cancellation, unless this is quite heavy, and to make it visible, the clerks make it heavy. Perhaps a little temper comes in once in a while too, because of the odd shape and softness of the parcel bearing the 3 cents stamp, causing some trouble in applying the cancellation.

193.—"How may alcohol, benzine or ether be used in cleaning dirt from stamps?" Alcohol (the purest obtainable) and benzine may be used as simple baths. Some stamp-colors dissolve in them; care is therefore necessary and after the bath the stamps should be pressed and dried between two sheets of clean white blotting paper. Ether may also be used as a bath, or it may be used to fumigate the stamps without touching them directly. To do this, place your stamp face up on a very small dish, pour the ether in a larger dish, then place the small dish into the larger one and cover up both by a third dish so as to keep the fumes of ether in the space over the stamp. After leaving it there for 10 to 30 minutes (or even longer) press it between blotting paper. It is important that this blotting paper should be white and quite clean. In case of valuable stamps there is always some risk in manipulating them, unless one has some experience, it is better to leave them as they are than to spoil them. Beware of fire when

using benzine or ether!

194. "Are all the U. S. Civil war revenues on the same kind of papre?" No. There is, as Scott's catalogue states, old paper and silk paper. The old paper is without silk threads. It was used first, and when the perforating had been well under way the silk paper, which has many small silk threads in it, was introduced. Imperforate and part perforated stamps should be on old paper. If found on silk paper they are probably trimmed. In the second issue tinted paper was introduced and finally paper with a watermark. To study these stamps more fully, get Adenans Catalogue of U. S. Revenues or the Boston Phil. Societys "Historical Reference of the Revenue Stamps of the U. S."

195. "Is it worth while to save philatelic papers and to bind them?"

Certainly, if one cares for anything that is in them, and, if they are really philatelic, that is if they contain anything about stamps, they will always represent something of value to the philatelic student. Even the advertising pages will, after years gone by, throw some light on the philatelic market of this day. If you read those pages of 30 years ago now, Oh, how do we wish we could call those times, or at least those prices, back for a while.

Vacation Time Is Stamp Time

By MISS A. APPLETON

What is rest!

The body is at rest when it ceases motion; the mind is at rest when it ceases to be disturbed or agitated.

We make a great mistake in thinking, that in order to rest one must be free from all activity; thus, vacation, the resting time, is idled away

without gaining that for which we seek, a renewed supply of latent mental and physical energy, to enable us to fill our places successfully, in the arduous struggle of life. In order for the mind to rest, it must be pleasantly occupied, and so great is its influence over the body that it can not rest unless the mind is at ease.

The unoccupied mind is spending precious nerve force in recalling the unpleasant things of life which must be banished before we can begin to rest. I know of no more pleasant occupation for the mind during resting hours than that of stamp collecting.

The stamp album may be taken out under the shade of a tree, in pleasant weather and so absorbed does one become in the study of the numerous varieties, that the petty troubles, which are so disturbing to the peace of mind, are forgotten, and the mind and body are in harmony with nature, submitting unconsciously, to the power of pure air and sunshine, natures' great restoratives. In stormy weather, also, we find the stamp album doing its missionary work in keeping off the "blues" which are so destructive to good health.

It is astonishing the amount of rubbish that is offered and sold to young collectors under the name of "reprints." And in a great many instances these socalled "reprints" are forgeries pure and simple. Collectors should read up on their stamps, get a catalogue, and study the stamps so well that they can tell a reprint from a genuine as far as they can see them, and thus aid in suppressing the sale of bogus stamps.

Woman Collectors Department

Devoted to the Interests of the Woman Collector
By **VERNA WESTON HANWAY**
Box 156, Dallas, Pa.

MY PHILATELIC QUEEN.

Fair hair, blue eyes, as mischieful
As ever yet was seen,
She comes to me persistantly,
This philatelic queen,
She comes with stampful hands and
tries

With earnest, winsome smile,
To make me ride her hobby horse
My "leisure to beguile."

"Oh yes! it's very fine no doubt,
Good as a stupid play,
But this is now my summertime,
And I am making hay,
To feed perchance my fractious colts,
Maybe a blue eyed wife,
Whom fortune yet may give to bless
The winter of my life."

She says 'she hopes my days wont be
As transient as the grass'.
My anxious quest, so lightly veiled,
She lets unnoticed pass,
To trot again before my eyes
Her parti colored steed
Display the 'skutcheons of its house
Its heralding and deed.

And then she gravely puts me through
A limping, questioned pace,
But cruelly kept well behind.
So I can't see her face
When she demands from album page
'Whose image now is this?'
I sigh, "'tis Caesars," then my love
Fled with a silent hiss.

Dear sisters of Philately
You see I'm in the soup"
Can't some of you just tell me how
I may at once recoup?
Where can I get that knowledge vast
Of all stamps ever seen,
So I can meet on Wisdoms throne

My philatelic queen?

St. Julian.

CHATS WITH MY SISTERS.

This is the second time I address you, dear sisters, from under my own roof-tree. I have been wondering how you really wish this department conducted. I am to conduct this department in such manner as you wish. Cannot you help me a little with your suggestions and criticisms?

Of late years quite a little controversy has loomed up in the philatelic press upon collecting in relation to the sexes. Through this controversy it became evident that women collectors were as numerous as men and as ardent devotees of collecting. It also became evident that there were many boy collectors of all ages and conditions, but that there were very few young girls who collected. I mean by this girls aged from fourteen to eighteen. This strikes me as a sad condition. There is much in collecting, particularly the collecting of stamps which it seems should interest the young girl. If the attention of young girls was more generally attracted to collecting it appears to me there would be fewer discontented, restless, and nervous young girls. Fewer devotees of "1.08 novels," excessive dancing and "boy friends." There is missionary work here for intellectual women collectors with girl friends.

A friend has a very odd and interesting den which is a constant source of wonder and admiration. The wall decorations consist of stamps mounted on heavy white enameled card board, protected by glass and exquisitely framed in narrow frames. The walls are lined with these "stamp pictures," as her little niece terms them, from top to bottom. The stamps are arranged according to

Our Illustrations.

L. B. READ

was born in Lawrence, Kansas, April 11, 1873 and has spent the greater part of his life there. He travelled all over the world and spent some time in Australia and the south Pacific Islands collecting curios of all kinds.

He is a collector of anything quaint and curios and has a large collection of savage weapons and utensils, war relics and Indian curios. Is now employed in the U. S. Mail service. See his ad in this issue.

FRANCIS E. LESTER

was born in the north of England in 1768, coming to this country in 1889, and for the last five years has been pegging away at the business which is now assuming considerable proportions after a good deal of hard work. It has grown so extensively that in the last three months it has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$75,000 under the name of the Francis E. Lester Co., of which he is president. They make a specialty of a few lines in which he thinks they can do better than any other dealers. These are the fact that they are the only dealers in the United States that sell genuine Indian rugs woven to any color, size, or design. They have the Pueblo Indians of their section under contract and personally look after all their weaving, directing them to designs, kind of weaving etc.

Another special line of their business is that both wholesale and retail, they sell large quantities of Mexican opals on small margins of profit, procuring all these direct at the mines in Mexico. He sells no opals that have not first

been kept in stock from four to twelve months in order that they become seasoned and avoid cracking and deterioration.

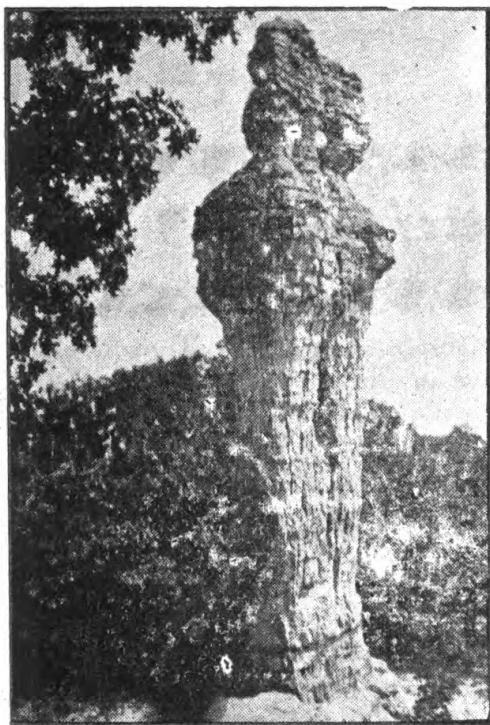
Of course the Mexican Drawnwork end of their business is a big thing and as they have those things made down in the interior are able to give good values in those also.

THEO. SIDALL

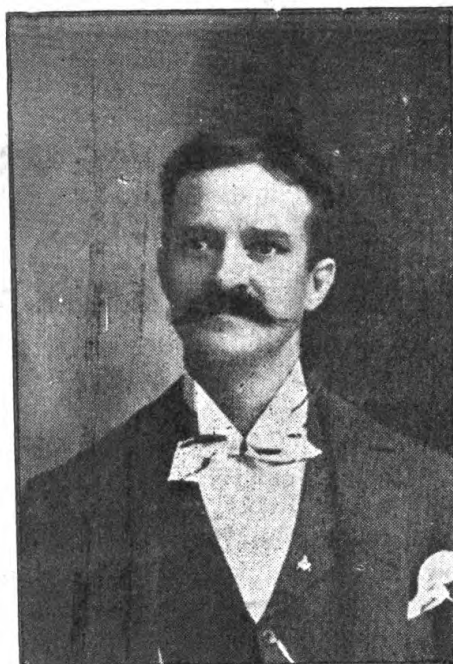
I began collecting about 1885, and collect postage stamps and nothing else. I have no use for mark down and job lot surcharges, nor envelopes, and particularly detest revenues. I only take one stamp of a design, where there are a hundred or so of any country of the same type, and so have no use for the dotty varieties and fly-speck errors that stuff the modern catalogue and new-issue chronicles in the stamp papers. My collection illustrates all the designs that are found on stamps, without the dreary repetition that an old line or special collection affords; stamps showing animals are grouped together; so with birds, buildings, trees, trains of cars, steamers' etc., not to mention the various kings, queens and jacks who are depicted on our own and other countries' stamps.

B. CALLAN

of Newark Ohio was born in the north of Ireland 1862. Came to the United States in 1874 and lived in Clinton Co. Ia until 1890 and has followed railroad-ing since 1890 and is now located in Newark, O and employed by the Baltimore and Ohio R R Co. since 1900. Has collected stamps and coins for several years and is well known to many stamp dealers and collectors.



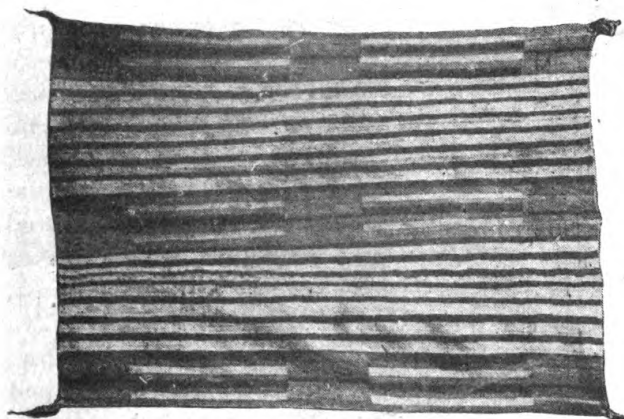
Chimney Rock



F. G. Fuessell, St. Louis, Mo.



Francis E. Les



Old Navajo Squaw Shawl.



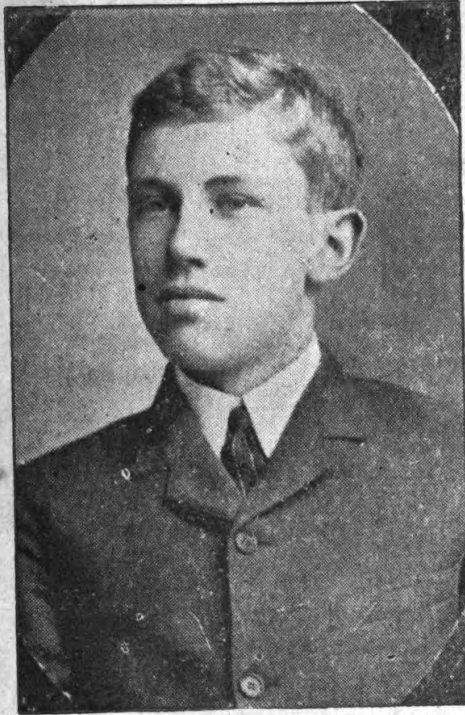
B. Callan, Newark, O.



Rettinger's Indian



ter, New Mexico



H. Mills, Hamilton, Canada



L. B. Reed, Lawrence, Kansas



Relics Digitized by Google



FRED G. FUESSEL

was born in Leipzig, Saxony, the 13 day of May 1856. He received his education at the Royal Commercial college and it was then that the foundation of his first stamp collection was laid at the age of 11 years. After graduating he traveled through Europe on returning to Leipzig obtained a position in a large mercantile house being subsequently transferred to their branch house in New York. In 1880 he came to St. Louis, where he was employed as clerk at St. Louis Stamping Co. In 1890 he entered the Postal service, where he is at present employed. In 1898 he sold his fine collection containing over 7000 varieties and started to specialize in U. S. and colonies. He is a member of the S. P. A. since 1995 also belongs to the Canadian Phil Assn., International Phil. Assn., New Century stamp Club, International ass'n of Letter Carriers and others.

HERBERT MILLS

was born near Hamilton 1888, started stamp collecting when he was only 7 years old and started wholesale business 4 years later. At present have about 3000 varieties of stamps, some very good ones as Canada Jubilee, also foreign stamp cat at \$35 and a lot cat from \$3 to \$20. He don't go in for the stamp business for the money there is in it, but only to get money to buy stamps for his collection.

CHIMNEY ROCK

stands 9 miles southwest of Hastings, Dakota Co., Minn., known as the McGree Bros. farm and is 31 feet and 11 inches high and formed from St. Peter sandstone by nature. In early days the Indians came to Chimney Rock to get the Vermillion colored sand to color their faces and hands. Vermillion

river runs within 80 rods of Chimney Rock and may visitors come there during the summer to see the rock.

Old Navajo Squaw shawl owned by E. W. Kimball, Boulder, Col. Been in constant use for 30 years, is a fine addition to the already fine collection of Navajo blankets owned by Mr. Kimball.

The first of continental countries to issue stamps at a date when stamp making had not attained to that scientific excellence which characterizes its later history, Switzerland's postal authorities did well to produce stamps with the many excellencies we find them.

From the fact that in the early days before the birth of the Swiss confederation the administration of postal affairs was in the hands of cantons, each of which seemed to care far more for the financial than the social success of the service, and from the further fact that the cardinal stamps were mainly lithographed, with as many varieties to a sheet as there were individual stamps.

It is small wonder that the earlier Swiss stamps presented almost insurmountable difficulties to the pioneers among timbromaniacs.

The stamps commonly called Vauds were issued for the first postal district, comprising the cantons of Geneva and the Vaudois district of Nyon. The first value to be issued was the 4-cent. This is probably the scarcest of regularly issued Swiss stamps. Only 5,000 it is said, were printed, after which the plate or lithographic stone rather, was altered to print the 5-cent. As the figure was changed by hand, differences in the shape and position of the 5 make 100 var on every sheet and their plating is quite possible.

What Gives Old Coins Value

"While the knowledge is fairly general that many old coins command high premiums," said a coin dealer the other day, "still there are very few who understand why certain coins are worth more than others. The great majority of people wrongly think that the value of a coin depends upon its age, the result being that every coin coming into their possession more than fifty years old is carefully laid away for some future time when there may be a demand for it.

"The principal reason of a large premium on a coin is its scarcity. The date has nothing whatever to do with it. There are plenty of Roman coins thousands of years old, in good condition, which can be bought for 25 cents, while a New Jersey cent issued in the latter part of the Revolution will bring \$700. It is due to the fact that there are only eight 1804 dollars in existence that those coins are worth from \$2000.00 up to any figure one chooses to pay for them.

"The next thing in importance to the issue of a coin is its condition. And upon this really rests the value of the coin. The average collector has very little use for a worn or mutilated coin, no matter how scarce it may be. Here, for instance, is a 1794 dollar, badly worn, which will bring hardly anything, while one in good condition is worth fully \$300.

"There are, of course, other reasons for the increased value of a coin, and one of these is illustrated by the experience of a wealthy Massachusetts coin collector:

"This collector, impatient to finish his collection of Territorial gold coins—that is, coins made by mining companies and private firms in the West during the years immediately following the gold discovery in Cali-

fornia—advertised for the coins he needed to complete his set. Of these gold coins there are nearly 200 pieces, ranging in face value from \$2.50 up to \$50. Of this number he had already obtained about 160, and needed about forty more to complete the series.

"As soon as the dealers and those holding these coins learned that there was somebody anxious to get them, the prices went up with wonderful rapidity. Any one of the coins before the advertisement was published could have been bought under \$100. But the premium soon went over this figure, and increased until as much as \$250 was demanded for a single coin. The collector bought them as they were offered, however, notwithstanding the increased figure at which they were placed.

"Finally a coin dealer in the city secured one coin for \$75 and another for \$250 which were especially sought by the collector, and then advertised their sale at auction. The advertisement attracted the attention of the collector, who was promptly on hand on the day of the sale. When the coins were offered the bidding was spirited, and the coins were finally knocked down to a youngish looking man, whose appearance indicated limited means, for \$500 apiece. Promptly paying cash for his coins, the young man at once left the auction room. He soon afterward was followed by the coin collector, and the supposition is that the collector finally secured the coins from the young man.

"The whole affair had much the appearance of the fictitious bidding that takes place at the auction sales around town, where by collusion between the auctioneer and a paid bidder the price of an article is bid up until it reaches a satisfactory figure.

"As \$500 was the last price paid for these coins, that figure will now stand as the listed premium."

An Account of The Coinage of British India With Historical Notes.

Wayte Raymond, A N A

THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

Bombay was first visited by the Portuguese in 1509. However, in 1661 it was ceded to Charles II of England as part of the dowry of his bride, the Infanta Catharine of Portugal. In 1868 the king granted it for an annual payment of £10 to the East India Company which in 1865 transferred its most important presidency at that time from Surat to Bombay. In the reign of Charles II a number of rupees were struck bearing either the arms of the king or those of the East India Company. These coins are more or less crude and bear some form of the word Bombay. A few copper pyse also appeared about the same time with a Latin inscription.

In the early part of the eighteenth century, began a series of coinages at the native mints of two-pyse pyse and half pyse, struck in both copper and lead and commonly known and described as "dumps." They mostly bear on the obverse a crown with G R above and Bom or Bomb below, and generally on reverse the East India Company bale mark, with the date on the larger ones.

In 1791 a neat issue of four copper coins appeared of the denominations of five, ten, fifteen and twenty cash. These are well struck, being imported from England. They are all alike as to type, having no mark of value and may be described as follows,—obverse—The East India Company bale mark and date 1791 or 1794, and on the reverse a balance with the word "Adel" in Arabic between, signifying justice.

A well struck but not so pleasing a coinage follows this in 1804. These were also coined in England, and are of



the value of two pyse, pyse and half pyse. They bear on the obverse the arms, etc., of the East India Company with date below and "East India Company" above. The reverse is similar to the issue of 1791 with the addition of Hejira era 1219 in Arabic figures.

In 1830 we have the last coinage for Bombay in a similar issue but of different values, those of half anna, quarter anna and pie. They are similar to the issue of 1804 with the value expressed above the balance on reverse.

There are innumerable native issues of copper and silver in the 18th century and the early part of the 19th, that cannot be enumerated, but mostly all come under the head of "dumps."

(To be continued.)

The next will contain an account of coinage of Madras.

Two and a quarter tons of whalebone have been sold at Dundee, Scotland for £3,000 a ton last week. The previous record was £2,800. There are said to be only four tons of whalebone left in the world all the supplies, American and British having been cleared up.

The king of Eng. hobby is numismatics, and not even the cares of kingship have made him give it up. His collection is one of the finest in the world, though it is limited to the coins of his country only. Beginning with the rude coins of the Gothic invaders, and ranging from the earliest Papal coins down to the money now in use throughout the Kingdom, it includes examples from all the 200 odd mints of the country, containing in all some 50,000 specimens.

The Archaeology of New York

No. 6.—Wampum and Shells.

By OSWALD A. BAVER

The last subject to be considered under this title is that of wampum and those various articles made of shell which the Aborigines used for differing purposes. Of course the universal use of shells for both currency and adornment is too well known to require discussion here. All of the native tribes had this common taste and the articles of this kind are to be found from the Atlantic to the Pacific. At first the manufacture of shell articles was confined to localities near the coast. In New York the original seat of the wampum industry was on Long Island whence it was distributed among the inland tribes. The manufacturer of wampum is not as old as it may seem since it was not until the white man came and showed the Indian his improved methods that it began to develop. At first the native used small bits of wood strung together and painted in different colors. A very few were made of shells but these were rare and highly esteemed. When the white man appeared he soon saw the value of wampum as a trade medium and began its manufacture in abundance. The native quickly learned from them and soon gave up the use of the old wooden substitute and used the shell wampum. Shell beads however were little known in the interior of the state before the 17th century and nearly all of the so called old wampum belts bear evidence of the white man's manufacture in some respects.

Besides passing for currency it was also used in personal decoration by the natives. Collars, necklaces,

bracelets and ear pendants are a few of the uses to which it was put in this manner. Another form of ornament is often called a crescent and was either of shell or bone, curved pointed on the ends and had a double perforation for suspension. Some articles are imitative of birds and have but one perforation. Perhaps the finest finished articles of this kind are those resembling the turtle of which some fine specimens have been found. The early flat shell beads are rare in this state few having been found and with but few exceptions the beads of this description date from the second half of the 16th century.

The name "wampum pipes" was allied to those beads which were cylindric in shape and about the length of a pipe stem. They bear a close resemblance to the latter article when exposed to the weather and are frequent in occurrence on many sites. Pendants made from spiral shells are rare as are likewise the so-called pins which occur in great abundance in the state of Tennessee. The latter were made from the columellae of large shells and required great patience and skill.

Of the manufacture of wampum belts the accounts given by most writers seem too conflicting for an accurate statement regarding this subject. The average length of the belt seems to have varied from two to six feet and the width about two and a half inches. The strands of thread were arranged parallel to each other and held tight by means of a simple device. The number of beads required to the width were then run upon a string or thread and passed under the other cords at right angles so that there was one bead between each of the parallel cords. The thread was then brought back again

in the opposite direction and run through each of the beads again in turn so that they were held firmly in place by each of the dividing cords and the threads which passed over and under the cords. This was continued until the belt reached its required length when the ends of the parallel cords were tied together and the edges trimmed.

Beyond a very few miscellaneous articles which are either local or of insufficient importance there are few others which were made of shell worthy of note. It might be said here however that shellfish formed one of the important sources of the food supply of the seacoast tribes. It was in this way that the so-called shell heaps were formed. The natives either ate large quantities on the same spot from time to time or else stored them away for winter after removing the shells and drying them. These shell beds are mostly composed of the shells of clam, oyster and scallop, while inland are found the fresh water clam. In some instances we find these shell heaps used as places for interment of the dead. For food the mollusk has been in long use here but as ornaments the shells are comparatively recent, at the most not over 400 years old and those of this age are rare.

With this short summary is concluded a description of the chief articles used by the aborigines and found in New York. No attempt has been made to give a detailed description of the archeology of the state but merely to note those relics found here and known to have been used by the natives together with the degree of rarity in which they occur. Many individual specimens have been omitted, both for want of space and because they are but rarities at best and of little interest to the average

collector who can scarcely ever hope to possess one. As a general review it may be said that New York bears evidence, through the relics found within its borders of a more varied occupation than its average neighbor. There still remain wide fields for research in most parts of the state for beyond a few individual attempts most of the work has been done throughout the central and western portions. If a systematic search is made in the remaining portions no doubt new finds will come to light which will place this locality still higher amongst the United States where the Indian has left his material imprint and among which it already holds a primal position.

THE KING AND THE BOTANIST.

A story illustrating the simple bonhomie of the King of Sweden and Norway is told in the *Echo de Paris* by M. Gaston Bonnier, the botanist. M. Bonnier was botanizing near Stockholm, when he met a stranger similarly occupied. The two botanists fraternised, and M. Bonnier suggested that they should lunch together at an inn. "No come home and lunch with me," said the stranger; and he led the way to the palace and opened the gate. M. Bonnier was naturally astonished; but his new acquaintance was most apologetic. "I'm sorry," he said; "but I happen to be the King of this country, and this is the only place I've got to entertain anybody in." So they went in and lunched, and talked botany together all the afternoon.

The little, terse, pungent ad, with its common sense appeal, never out of sight, jogging away, always in evidence, is the small dealers best investment.

A South Florida Mound

B y O W E N T B R E W E R

A recent visitor to the great prehistoric mound on Whitaker's Bayou, near Sarasota Florida, has returned with new stock of theories relative to this famous relic of the early citizens of this beautiful country.

This mound is about fifteen feet high, possibly fifty feet long, quite straight, pointing due north and south. It differs materially from the shell mounds at the mouth of the river, as they are crescent shaped, with a plain purpose of serving as a barrier from the northwesterners to the village sheltered in their lea. The shell mound contains ashes and other evidences of human habitation in abundance; the earth mound contains none. The shell mounds contain quantities of pottery remnants which are entirely without ornamentation. The few pottery remnants in the earth mound are very delicate and cunningly ornamented, considering the barbaric condition of the builders. The shell mounds contain no earth; the original body of the earth mound contains no shell.

The shell mounds contain no bones except in very rare cases, those of some marine animal which doubtless was washed up in a disabled condition into the arms of the mound builders. The earth mound plainly had no other purpose than to serve as a cemetery. And right here the remarkable feature of this remarkable cemetery comes in; the earth was not piled upon bones. The entire structure must have been built leaving a trench in the top in which the bodies were interred. It is, however, a mistake to speak of bodies; there are no bodies; the most careful digging shows that the bones were thrown in

separately and promiscuously.

The question naturally arises: Were they cannibals? An affirmative answer is suggested by the fact that each skull bears unmistakable evidence of having been battered in by some heavy, blunt instrument, and the entire absence of any spinal column or ribs naturally leads to the conclusion that the tenderloins had been carried off to receive more careful consideration. But whatever the nature of the persons who conducted the burial services, the persons buried were not cannibals—or, in fact, meat eaters at all. There is nearly as great difference between the sharp fangs of the dog and the flat molars of the ox as between the teeth of the average man and the smooth topped grinders which grin at you from the many skulls which the spade turns up. The many indignities which these unreverenced dead have received must be added the unmistakable conclusion that they chewed roots (there were no rags in their day), and were not higher order than the shell mound builders who found gustatory satisfaction day by day in boiled conchs. Of weapons of any sort, even simplest arrowheads, which are so much in evidence in old Indian village remains, like that at Miakka, there are none in these mounds at all.

A pair of Mastoden tusks, the finest ever found, were recently brought into San Francisco. They measured 103 inches in length, 18 inches in circumference, weighing 103 lbs. each. They were found a few miles from Point Barron, where they were embedded in ice. The find is of great value, both from an antiquarian and commercial point of view.

The Killing and Preserving of Insects

BY MAX F. BIER

A short account of the method of killing and preserving insects may be of interest to some of the readers of the WEST. The study of entomology is most interesting and instructive, but its pleasure is greatly enhanced by having a more or less complete collection of your own.

There are several methods of killing butterflies and moths. One way is with cyanide of potassium. The cyanide is put in a bottle, and liquid plaster of paris poured over it. But there are some drawbacks to this process. In the first place moths have a great objection to going into the bottle. Unless it is a very wide-mouthed one they can hardly be got into it. Then the cyanide is very fugitive, and although it acts admirably at first it soon loses its power, and a moth may remain in it for an hour before it dies. It is also very injurious to insects. The atmosphere in a cyanide bottle is always damp, and moisture is deposited on the glass and the insects are sure to flutter against the sides and stick.

Another mode of using cyanide is by keeping a strong solution, dipping into it tiny bits of blotting paper and dropping them into the box with the moth. This is certainly preferable to the cyanide bottle. The reader must remember however that cyanide of potassium is a deadly poison, and the druggist may not sell it without a properly authenticated order. It must be used with the utmost caution.

For those who cannot obtain cyanide, benzine can be used. With a brush paint a streak across the top of the box. This stupefies the insect

and it lies as if dead. Then cover the entire body with benzine. This prevents its coming back to life. At first this operation takes all the color out of the wings, but in a short time the benzine evaporates and the colors are bright as ever.

Many moth's bodies are covered with downy feathers and if allowed to dry in the ordinary manner, these would clog together and their appearance be spoiled. But if a current of air be kept blowing on them from the tail towards the head, they will show no signs of having been wetted. Always air your boxes thoroughly after putting benzine in them, because if you do not the next inmates will be annoyed by the odor and damage themselves in their attempts to escape. Placing the open boxes in the sunshine is the best deodorizer I know of.

To kill beetles throw into boiling water and remove instantly, or they will fall apart.

The insects should be set in three attitudes, walking, flying and resting. The attitude at rest requires very little setting as the insect falls naturally into it, and we will therefore describe how to set them in the position of flying.

We must buy setting-boards and pins and must have one receptacle for the insects when they are set, and dried. Commonly pins should never be used as they are too thick and clumsy. Entomological pins should be bought for the purpose. They may be obtained at dealers at a moderate price. Setting boards can be bought for about ten cents each. A number of braces will also be required. These should be made of cardboard. Do not cut them too short, and make the same width through out. Blotting paper will also be wanted as we shall see presently.

To be continued.

On The Collecting of Bird's Eggs.

BY W. H. P L A N K,

The study of birds and their eggs is one of the most interesting branches of the natural sciences. It is one of the most fascinating studies we know of. A half day in the woods in early spring puts a new life in one and the memory of it is not soon forgotten



The eye is trained so that it is as keen as a bird's; the foot is taught to move as quietly and stealthfully as an Indian, and the ear hears every sound.

The oologist's season is limited. The spring is his collecting season, April and May are his best months.

If with the advent of spring you have decided to begin a collection of birds eggs, these few hints will probably be of use to you.

An egg drill and a blowing pipe are the two most essential tools you will need. A note-book, pencil and collect-box should be taken along. For birds such as hawks, owls, wood peckers, a pair of climbing irons—such as line-men on telephone and telegraph lines use—will be required. They may be picked up second hand in the larger cities or bought through your hardware dealer, who will order them for you. If you have never used a pair of "climbers" you will find it very awkward at first. Ask or watch a lineman and you will soon "catch on."

After starting out on a collecting trip and you have finished an unknown bird from her nest, the first thing nec-

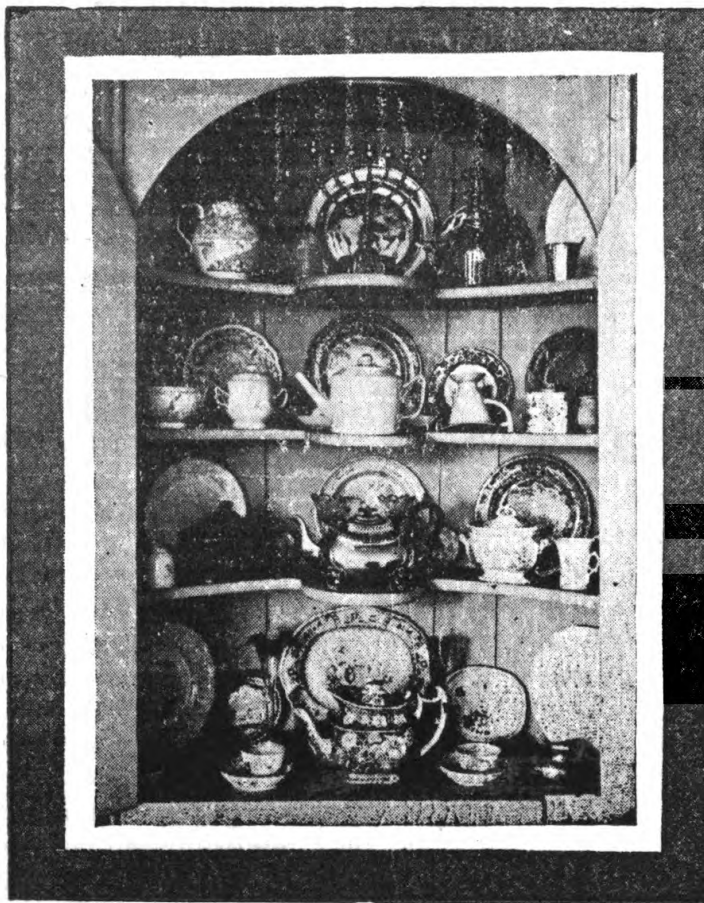
essary is to identify or find out what kind of a bird it was. Hide behind a friendly bush unseen, and in a few minutes the mother bird will come. Take out your pencil and note book and carefully note and jot down a complete description of her. Here is a point:—Where every collector should have a good pair of opera glasses of powerful lenses. They will greatly aid him in establishing an accurate identity of his bird.

We know that a great many oologists carry a gun and procure the bird for identification. A pair of opera glasses is better to carry in the woods than a gun. Remember that some of the best and most accurate, to say nothing of the most entertaining stories of bird life have been written by persons who have never killed a bird with a gun. Bear in mind also that your eggs are worthless unless identified and that the identity of all eggs collected is the utmost importance.

For a collecting box a tin deed box with partitions and lined with cotton is about the best that can be had.

(Concluded next month)

An Old China Closet. ✎ *By Virginia Baker.* ✎



Taken by Geo. Moulthrop

bolts had, in 1778, successfully resisted the united efforts of half a dozen fur capped, big booted Hessians to force an entrance to the house, and a little many-paned window might have made a deal of sport by describing the undignified manner in which the burly plunderers were forced to scramble over its narrow sill. Indeed there was no part of the ancient structure but could have related some unique or amusing incident.

The china closet, built into one side of that in olden times had been the parlor of the house, could easily have recalled memories of the period when, in lieu of paper and carpet,

The old china closet formed part of an old house which stood at the corner of two old streets in an old New England seaport town. The house, erected in 1765, could have related some interesting reminiscences had it been gifted with the power of speech. Its great central chimney, overlooking an arm of Narragansett Bay, had sighted many and various craft in its day. It had seen privateers of the Revolution and the War of 1812, stately merchant men, giant whalers, and stout West India men of antebellum days, steamboats, great four-masted colliers, yachts, and naphtha launches of modern times. The homely front door might have boasted that its long iron

the parlor walls were covered with white-wash and the floor with pure white sand, the latter swept into intricate arabesque designs by the deft flourishes of the housewife's broom. The china closet could have told, also, that the rosettes and flutings that ornamented its sides were all carved by a common jackknife, and that its glass doors were a modern innovation, having been hung less than ninety years ago. And it could have added that it might have made a more interesting display of china-ware if the Hessians, before mentioned, had not seen fit to ruthlessly destroy some old colonial specimens.

CLOSED EYES IN FLASHLIGHT GROUPS.

A photographer came in one night last week to take a picture of the officers of the lodge. He wanted it for the official journal. They were arranged in a group, the focus taken, and the flash placed in position. The photographer then asked them to close their eyes while he counted three slowly. As he said three and all eyes were opened, the flash was made and the exposure secured. It was a new idea to me and I had to interview the artist on the matter. He told me that about so often he found one member of a group come out with closed eyes. This was not the fault of the flash but simply because the subject had slowly closed the eyes or "winked" at the wrong moment. His plan of having them close their eyes for a moment prevented this happening. Another point gained was owing to the fact that a person opening their eyes in this way after having them closed for a moment, always has a more animated look and are less likely to have the eyes rolled to one side than is the case when they have become somewhat tired with the process of focusing and arranging the group which seems to take longer than ordinarily as it is inclined to do when flashlight work is attempted. All in all, the idea is not a bad one.

TONING YOUR SOLIO PRINTS.

I dropped in on the professional the other day, the man who does commercial photography and does it well. He was toning his day's printing and I thought he was taking a little longer than was absolutely necessary. I mentioned the matter and this is what he had to say on the subject: Rapid toning allows the fixing bath to attract the deposit

which is only on the surface. The result is a print that looks weak. A good deposit of gold, such as slow toning will give, will not be so affected. There is little choice as to the alkali used, but borax is perhaps the best. The amount used has a little effect upon the color of the finished print. If cold tones are desired, enough should be added to turn red litmus paper blue quite readily. Less gives a warmer tone. If toning be prolonged unduly, muddy tones will result. Prints should tone in about eight to ten minutes. Diluting the bath will slow the process while adding gold solution hastens matters.

ABOUT WASHING PRINTS.

We put the prints in a tray or dish of some kind, let the water run in at one corner, flowing out at another and imagine we are giving them a good washing in running water. Water is cheap, we tell ourselves and feel perhaps a little bit for the fellow who has to resort to alternate soaking and changing of the water. Just the same, the subject of our pity is doing his washing more completely and in less time than we do it with our constant flow of water. If you wish to prove the matter to your own satisfaction, take a dozen sheets of scrap paper and place them in a tray of water that has been colored a light red with a little carmine ink. See how long the running water requires to entirely remove the red color. Try it again with the soak and change plan and see how much quicker the trick is done. Better, try some regular prints out of the hypo bath and test both batches at the end of say seven minutes and see which show the strongest amount of hypo in the film.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

New members.

709 Jesse Cramer, Wakefield.

710 Harmed Bee Bldg. Omaha.

711 G. G. Gay, Kearney.

712 E Wyble, Superior.

713 A Glass, Lincoln.

714 A D Walker, Omaha.

Applications.

715 E. Bender, Albion

716 I. B. Wakefield,

717 G. Brukert, Brun'ng.

718 T. C. Starr, Omaha, 2403 18st.

719 J. Williams, Ainsworth.

720 Taylor, Bruning.

721 F. G. Karlson, Mead.

722 G. B. Blakeslee, Eddyville.

723 H. M. Smith, Juniata Bx 14.

We trust to hold meeting at Omaha during Ak-sar-ben. More in next issue. H. A. Hyatt says "mention in your next issue, the fact that we have the concession for rental of Kodaks in the Worlds Fair Grounds. Visitors can rent Kodaks, any size up to 4x5 at reasonable rates by the day and thus be saved the trouble of bringing a kodak.

We are located in the Official Photographers Building on the Plaza St. Louis, near the East Entrance to the Pike next to the Intramural Railway Station No. 1. In this store are sold only the products of the Kodak Company. They have however a dark room, which was built at the solicitation of Mr. Hyatt, and is located under the stairway.

A "GENRE" SUGGESTION.

It is during the present season, two characteristics of which are long days and tired children, that the fond parent often finds occasion for photographing the little tot fallen

asleep at the table after his bowl of bread and milk, and a few suggestions may not be out of place on this subject. As an opportunity of this work always comes toward the close of day, when the poor, tired little fellow cannot hold his head up any longer, the light is fast losing its actinic power and a comparatively long exposure must therefore be given in order to obtain any result. Operations must be carried on pretty quickly, too, and in a family of which the baby forms a part the camera should always be kept loaded and in readiness for such a possibility. A portable background, though not necessary, is very convenient, and should be placed behind the subject as soon as it is decided to photograph him. The camera should be used with a tripod or stand about until the best point of view obtainable is secured, taking care that the features are not distorted or covered by objects between the face and the camera. Do not move the cup and spoon if the little fellow has just been eating, but leave them to suggest a *raison d'être* for the picture. It is usually well to have the camera somewhat higher than the child's head, as the view thus obtained will be more like that seen by the eye of the observer than if made from a lower point of view. The direction of the light cannot always be arranged to one's satisfaction in this work, but the best use possible must be made of the conditions as they exist. The background is a great help and a reflecting screen of some kind almost necessary. Some beautiful pictures of child life have been obtained in this way.



American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.

Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
ship card sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.

X Will exchange souvenir post cards.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 5068 E. Butler Sydney, 2060 John-
stone St., Annandale, Australia. | 1 E. Shepard, Ashland, Ore. |
| 9 E. J. Cramer, East St. Louis,
Ill., 420 Bond St. | 2 C. Harrington, Avon, Minn. |
| 5070 M. Kopf, Cleveland, O, 19
Broadway. | 3 Rev. Gonswell, Oswego, N. Y. |
| 1 N. S. Hamaker, Reading, Pa.,
121 S 6th St. | 4 W. Flagg, Fitzwilliam, N. H. |
| 2 T. S. Spencer, Bx 356, Water-
bury, Conn. | 5 C. R. Heinfstock, Celumet, Ia. |
| 4 S. Browne, Colo City, Colo.,
bx 311. | 6 Stanley, Shellrock, Ia. |
| 5 F. McClure, Warsaw, N. Y. | 7 G. Brinkamn, Armillo, Tex. |
| 6 J. Matula, Marak, Tex. | 8 xCris Hansen, Superior, Neb Bx 84 |
| 7 J. R. Lawson, Wetskiwin, Al-
berta, Canada. | 9 xAnderson, Chicago, Ill. |
| 8 L. Vanderpool, Biloxi, Miss.,
Bx 19. | 5100 xL. Ryecek, Cleveland, 1535,
Bdway, N. Y. |
| 9 L. Hicish, Clinghouse, Nevada. | 1 xM. Gleissnor, Brooklyn, N. Y. |
| 5080 F. R. A. Lawrence, Canton,
Mo. | 2 xM Chajgill, Chch, New Zealand |
| 1 N. O. Crawford, Council Bluffs,
Iowa, 600 First Ave. | 3 xA Cook, St Louis, 3145, Cheery
Ave. |
| 2 C. Stutsman, Peru, Ind, Bx 114 | 4 R Oretel, Rose Hill, Tex |
| 3 F. Lawson, Brooen, Ind. Ter. | 5 xA. E. Smith, Luton, Ned-
shire, England, 17 Church St. |
| 4 E. Hugg, Richmond, Ill. | 6 xJ McQueen, Mt. Vernon, N Y |
| 5 T. Shipton, Hanover, Ill. | 7 xW. F. Slusser, Ft Casey, Wash |
| 6 N. Horford, Denver, Colo., 2031
Calif. St. | 8 xDora Guenther, Columbus, Tex |
| 7 W. Parrish, West, Palm Beach,
Fla. | 9 xR D Kaminski, Twist Galacia,
Austria. |
| 8 H. McAlire, Clayton, N. J. | 5110 xA. V. Jenkins, Fairy St, War-
nambool, Victoria, Australia. |
| 9 E. Berlin, Bonner Springs, Kan | 1 xN. M. Leonard, Newark, N Y |
| 5090 T. Smith, Isabella, Tenn. | 2 xC. Kary, Paris, 17, Rue de
Maubeuge. |
| | 3 xV. M-zian, N. Y. City, 45
Beaver St. |
| | 4 W. Welp, Streator, Ill. |
| | 5 C. Rundle, Troy, Idaho. |
| | 6 C Brunler, Whittmore, Ia. |
| | 7 W. Dryer, Wakefield, Mass. |

- 8 C. Cuti, Osage City, Kan.
- 9 E R Cook, Woonsocket, R I
- 5120 T Keler, 67 R R R st, Adrian, Mich
- 1 A Fletcher, U S S Montgomery, N Y
- 2 H Hulton, Independence, Mo
- 3 L Peterson, Syanfield, Minn
- 4 C Dickey, Bellaire, Kan
- 5 W Gilmore, Algons, Ia.
- 6 W. L. Well, Hooker Calif.

SPOTTING PRINTS.

For the spotting of black and white prints there is nothing better than a stick of Indian ink and a very fine-pointed sable brush. I always carry a fragment of ink the size of a grain of corn and a brush with about an inch of handle in a cardcase, and am able to spot a print at any time. I simply wet the brush with my lips a little, rub it on the cake of ink, until it has taken up as much as it will, and apply the almost dry brush point to the middle of the spot. Probably a ring of white remains about the tiny black dot, but at a distance of a few inches the spot becomes invisible. If not, I apply another dot beside the first, and so on until the spot disappears. Even on very light parts of the print heavy black dots thus applied do not show at a little distance. If the spot is large, the dots must be applied side by side. If one large dot is put on the result is almost always bad. In very light skies it may sometimes be advisable to use a more diluted color. It may then be worked down with a little water on a piece of paper or china, but the principle of stippling with separate dots rather than attempting a wash of solid color should always be adhered to. No fear of putting the brush to the lips need be felt, as Indian ink is nothing but lamp black, which is abso-

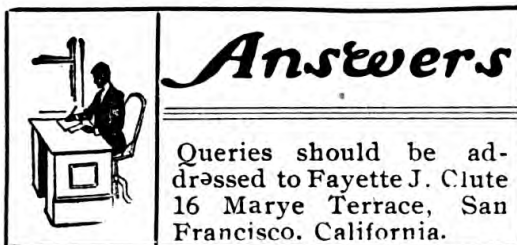
lutely insoluble and harmless, mixed with thin gum arabic water to hold it together.

A PRINTING WRINKLE

One which may be new to many and one I have found very useful. By its means you can force dense parts of the negative, such as a sky of clouds, or the water in a cascade, to render up its detail to the printing paper. Print out to nearly the right depth and then hold a reading glass in the sun at such a distance from the negative as to throw a disc of bright light upon it. The disc can be made larger or smaller by holding the glass nearer or farther away, but do not make it too small or the heat may crack the negative. Keep the glass on the move all the time, and you will soon observe on examining prints the very satisfactory way in which it makes the deep parts print.

GHOST PICTURES.

Ghost pictures in photography can be produced by placing a sitter on the far side of a room away from the window and toward one corner. Let him or her pretend to be asleep, and give such person instructions to keep perfectly still the whole time. Having set up the camera on the same side as the window toward one corner, expose for one minute. Next have a person carefully covered over in white sheet, and place near the sitter, being careful not to cover any part of the sitter; now expose for half a minute. Remove the person in the sheet away, and expose for another minute, and it is complete. It is a good plan to have a dark cloth folded two or three times to cover the lens when making the exposures, as there is less risk of shaking the camera.



E. M. C.—Copying Woodcuts for Slides: Says a writer in the *American Amateur Photographer* "Although I have made many copies, have never till quite recently been at all satisfied with them. Crude as many of the prints are, with rough lines rough and rotten, their faults when seen in their natural size are as nothing when compared with the appearance on the screen. A friend said he had seen a recommendation to photograph them through a sheet of finely ground glass and on trying the experiment it proved a very decided success. The glass should be the finest possible, as the finer the ground surface, the finer the copy, and it should be placed with the smooth, not the ground, surface in close contact with the print to be copied."

H. H. F.—To Insure Snappy Prints: If the best result from a negative is wanted it will be found desirable to give the negative a clearing bath after fixing. The following has been found to work well in practice:

Citric acid,	120 grains
Perchloride of iron,	60 grains
Water	8 ounces

L. McK—To Renovate the Leather Covering of a Hand Camera: Mix equal parts of black writing ink and liquid ammonia, and rub the liquid well into the leather with a piece of clean flannelette. When the leather is dry, it should receive a coating of one of the many boot polishes now on the market, and be finished off with a soft brush or a dry duster.

O. J. S.—Quick Proofs on Bromide Paper: It is quite easy to make an excellent bromide print from a wet negative as soon as it has been washed for few minutes after fixation. The chief condition of success is that there should be no air bubbles between the bromide paper and the negative. To effect this, immerse the piece of bromide paper, as well as the negative, in a bowl of water, and withdraw them from it in contact. If this be carefully done, there will be no air bubbles. Now put them in the printing frame in the ordinary way, and after closing it up clean off the glass side of the negative. Expose for about twice as long as usual, and develop the wet print at once. The negative may then be returned to the wash water for more thorough elimination of the hypo, while the print should be found to be as good as tone obtained in the usual way.

W. H. M.—The Improvement of Hard Negatives: Under exposed plates give, as we know, negatives in which the high-lights are too dense and the shadows too thin. Generally an improvement can only be effected by the troublesome process of using colored varnish. This process can, however, be greatly simplified in the following way:—The negative after being washed and dried, but not alumed, is placed in a weak solution of bluish-green color and water, and allowed to remain there for some time. The film absorbs the color, and that to a greater extent in the parts where the gelatine contains little silver than in those where the silver hinders the absorption. After drying, the shadows are therefore less penetrable by the light, while the high-lights are scarcely denser than before, and the result is therefore a far better proposition between the high-lights and the shadows, and consequently much superior prints.

Amateur Photography for Profit

By Henry Herbert Huff

No one should take up Amateur Photography with the idea of making much money. Amateur Photography can only be rightfully called a pastime. However, the amateur photographer should be able to derive sufficient money from his hobby to pay all expenses and leave some pocket money besides. Many who are taking up Photography as a pastime fail even to make enough money out of it to pay, in part, their expenses. As a result, when all their spare money has been expended, their camera is laid away to be used when the owner has accumulated sufficient money to continue for a time his expensive (?) hobby. The thing this class of "ams" lack is a knowledge on the subject "How to Make Amateur Photography a Source of Profit."

There are a score and one ways but for those who do not wish to enter contests or work up a local trade. Let me suggest one. The publisher of the Strand Magazine, (Address your parcel, Editor Strand Magazine, 8 Southampton St., London, W. C., Eng.) conducts a department of "Curiosities" in his magazine and pays liberally for original photographs of objects that are truly curiosities. The name and address of sender together with title and such descriptive matter as may be convenient should appear on the back of each photograph and return postage enclosed. If you wish to see a copy of the Strand Magazine a copy of the American Edition will be mailed you by the International News Co., 83 & 85 Duane Street, New York, for ten cents. Photographs do not have to

be of any great merit, only in the line of curiosities to stand good show of acceptance. Often carelessness or inexperience in Amateur Photography results in capital curiosities. Some very good freak photographs are produced by double exposures, two photos on one plate, and accidents in exposure or developing. There are scores of curious things around us that when photographed would be good examples of curiosities. Two sharp eyes and a wise head should be able to find some of them with a few dollars profit in the end.

BACKING PLATES.

On seeing the article on "Backing Plates" in your most excellent magazine I am led to tell you of the backing that I am now using. When the subject came up last year tried all the methods suggested, but none entirely satisfied me. Then I began experimenting with every substance I could think of. The first one that satisfied me at all was practically the same as Mr. Maloney's—a back paper held on by a film of soap. But have found a better one. It consists of water, lampblack and gum arabic. The trick lies in using gum arabic for an adhesive. I should say, for the proportions, about one half as much gum arabic as lampblack (in bulk, not by weight). Water should then be added until the right consistency is reached. I like it to be a thick paste. It can also be dried in cakes by pouring it into moulds and setting behind the stove. It is not necessary to put on a very thick coating of this backing; just enough to cover the plate evenly will be sufficient. Edwin W. Pillotson, Jr.—In Photo Beacon.

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist.

The Photo Bulletin Metropolis and Curio Monthly

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 18000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Stamp Collectors' Association, New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Union Souvenir Card Society, etc.

Vol. 28

SEPTEMBER 30, 1904

No 1.

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 2825 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Manchester, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT: C. A. NAST, Cor. 16 and Curtis, Denver,

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOCARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Manchester, Wis.

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

Woman Collectors Dept.—Miss C. Hanway, Dallags, Pa., Bx 156

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 36 prominent societies. THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER. The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

Metropolis, one of New York's Leading Collectors Papers, is Combined in the Next Issue. It will pay Advertisers to try it. IT REACHES READERS NO OTHER MAGAZINE HAS.

Exchanging Stamps With Collectors

By MAITLAND MILLIKEN

The above is an interesting subject that embodies a great many experiences in exchanging stamps with both domestic and foreign collectors. A person comes in contact with all classes and tastes whenever he writes and exchanges stamps with them. The collector, whether he be a beginner, medium or an advanced one, exchanges with his domestic brother collector and tries to get the class of stamps that he wants in exchange for his. His object is to fill as many blank spaces in his album as he can within his means. He generally puts in a small advertisement in leading stamp papers that have exchange columns set aside for this purpose and which is patronized by this class of collectors and sometimes he anxiously awaits the arrival of the paper, and when it does come, he scrutinizes the columns and finds his notice hidden in a myriad of advertisements and a few days elapse before he gets the first reply. He opens his letter and finds some stamps mounted on sheets containing some good ones, besides a few continentals that sell for about 15c per thousand and he picks out the stamps, filling out his blank spaces with satisfaction. He returns the collector's sheets and sends his stamps along for his selection in return and gives him whatever the credit he has selected amounts to, and so on. Sometimes he will substitute stamps on some bodys' sheets and take what he covets. This is a very mean practice and is done quite often.

There are various stamp societies that are gotten up solely with the idea of protecting the members from

substitution, fraud, etc. These exchanges are mostly run on the cash basis and a great many collectors do not patronize them. Some do not like the plan of cash basis because they cannot afford to expend their "chink" in this way, but prefer to exchange stamps for stamps, basis of equal values, taking as a basis any leading catalogues, such as Scott, Gibbon, Yvert et Tellier, Gelli et Tani. The exchange superintendent gets 10 per cent commission on all the stamps received for his trouble and expense in running the exchange. He makes up circuits, so quite a good many books pass through a number of hands and a member, if he is on the circuit, retains what he wants and passes it on. He sends his books of duplicates in to the superintendent to send a new circuit. Lots of benefit can be derived by these members from these societies.

Occasionally he gets a few foreign papers published in English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese and various other languages. These papers contain a large number of notices of collectors desiring to exchange stamps with the whole world. The collector will send his common or medium stamps in lots of 25 to 100 varieties, or mixed, to foreign collector in a certain country and this country contains a good many blank spaces in his album of the stamps which he asked for in his letter that he desires to fill up. He waits a reasonable time and not hearing from the foreigner, he is beginning to have a fear that he has been swindled, but if the is honest and reliable, he will send his own country stamps in exchange and in one of the daily mails he will receive a large square envelope (commonly used by the foreigners) plastered with many pretty stamps from the country from which

it came. He will find many stamps not in his collection. These exchanges are often very profitable if he comes into relation with the right class of collectors.

The foreigners will always want something for nothing. Some of these people are scheming all the time to defraud the unwary of their stamps. Their methods are various, but their favorite way is to insert a small advertisement in a stamp paper and the unsuspecting collector will probably send his stamps first if he is anxious to exchange. These advertisements always have such words as "answer sure," "reply always," "never send first," and a few high sounding words. Collectors must be on their guard when they read this class of advertisements. A party living in Roumania advertised under fourteen different names and addresses, having all these mails forwarded to him in Roumania from various countries, such as Sierra Leone, Leeward Islands, Gold Coast, Germany, East Africa, China, etc. Doubtless he swindled many collectors out of stamps worth several thousand dollars.

THREE KINDS OF BOYS.

Jim was tall and lean and lank,
While Jack was short and fat,
Jim was a philatelic fiend,
Jack a knight of the bat.

With tireless zeal Jim e'er pursued
His philatelic quest
From early morn till dusky eve
His labors knew no rest.

Though Jim amassed collections vast
And gained a wide renown,
He shrank away and soon became
The skeleton of the town.

Now Jack was quite the opposite
A regular base ball "fan"

He was a star at "sliding to third"
Or "putting 'em over the pan "

But carried away with athletic zeal
And an aching for baseball fame
Jack strained his arm and broke
three ribs

Which put him out of the game

Now Tom unlike his foolish mates
Possessed no wild desire
By straining either mind or limb
To set the world on fire.

His books and his stamps, his rod
and his gun

Each brought him its share of joy
For Tom was not what you'd call a
"phenom"

Just an all-round natural boy.

Now Jim and Jack are on the shelf
Each one's a woeful wreck
Both set a pace that couldn't last
But Tom is still on deck.

Wing & Wing.

Here is how to make a good stock book: Cut a strip about three-fourths of an inch deep off the bottom of an old envelope. This makes an excellent pocket for the stock book. As many pockets can be made as you have envelopes, provided the envelopes are cut open at the top and not at the end. Spreading them far enough apart, about five or six can be glued to the page of a blank book. Several pages make a book sufficiently large to hold hundreds of stamps. A drop of glue should be placed in the center of the pocket to glue the inside and outside strips together at this point, dividing the pocket into halves. If this is not done there may be too great an opening in the center of the pocket, allowing the stamps to slip out.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the dues of those below, are requested to send a copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst gebeten ein Tauschexemplar regelmassig an den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont pries i'envoyer un exemplaire en echange a l'adresse sous-donnee.

Deseames recibir esemplares de cambio de las publicaciones filatelicas estranjers a la adresa enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149. Manchester. Wis. U S A

Sometime ago it was rumored that a large stock of remainders of San Marino had been stolen by some one and our sister republic had thus been defrauded out of a considerable sum.

The authorities of the tiny republic have been offended by these rumors and have sent a letter to the editor of the Illustrated Briefmarken Journal which is published (in extract) in No. 14. I quote as follows: "Our treatment of the San Marino affair on page 197 has badly offended there. The present Regent, Signor Menetto Bonelli; therefore sent us a letter several weeks ago whose contents we here publish, for the sake of the truth. Sig. Bonelli writes us that the remainders of San Marino were properly sold to a little known philatelist at Vienna for the price of 22,000 lire and that the price was fully paid before the delivery of the stamps."

The paper adds that the purchaser has since been found in the prison of a high Austrian official. Of course he is not apt to want them for wall paper and so collectors may shortly expect rock-bottom offers in old San Marino issues, especially of the old

Jubilee set. It is difficult to say just how low they may fall, as to official figures are given for the stock sold.

The Italian 5 centesimi stamp of the current issue was lately found in violet and announced as an error. The I. B. J. has heard from the Director of the Italian Government Printing Office at Turin that these are nothing but proofs which exist in other colors as well.

Postal customs in Columbia some what resemble those formerly in vogue in this country. I quote as follows from the same paper which in turn took the item from L'Union Postale, the organ of the Universal Postal union:

"Free delivery exists in Columbia only in cities of 50,000 inhabitants and over and is confined to letters, cards and printed matter of local origin. Correspondence from outside is delivered to the residence of the addressee only when these have specially applied for it and have paid a certain fee in advance. This must be paid monthly by the third of the month; it does not appear how high it is. Unpaid letters are also delivered to these subscribers by the carriers. The addressee must affix the postage due to the letter in stamps and return the envelope to the carrier, who returns it to the office by way of check on his accounts."

A while ago the papers were full of details about a new issue for Chile. In connection therewith the following item from the I. B. J. No. 15 will prove of interest: "In regard to the necessary news from Valparaiso: The new issue is already being printed. The portrait of the discoverer has been retained, as the plan to portray the heads of noted Chilian statesmen has been abandoned." Well, now,

isn't that too bad! Still the fidelity with which Chile sticks to our old friend Christopher C. is really affecting.

Our colleague reports that the 1c brown lilac and the 5c red of the 1903 issue of Bolivia have been reprinted at Buenos Aires from new plates, the 1c being distinguishable by the lighter color and the greater width of the head, the 5c by the color, which is brick red instead of carmine. This information is rather curious, as these stamps were not originally printed at Buenos Aires, but at New York by the A. B. N. Co.

According to a report in No. 16 of the same paper all the heller values of Austria are to be altered. The present design will be retained, but the values from 1 to 6 heller will have the value in color on white ground, those from 10 to 30 will have it in black on white, those from 51 to 60 in white on color; the 40 heller will change from olive to violet. Denmark is also planning a new issue with head of King Christian IX in the 5, 10, 20, 25, 50 and 100 oere, while the 1, 3, 4, 12 and 15 oere are to remain similar to the present design. The head design was made by Professor Tegner and the plates are being made in Paris, oddly enough. I suppose we shall soon see the new stamps, as they had already been announced from April 8th, last. the King's birthday.

In the same number the I. B. J. brings an exhaustive recapitulation of the various Panama issue up to date, accompanied by a splendid half-tone plate. It will be apt to discourage the beginner to learn that the young republic has issued 108 varieties so far.

Fiscals are coming in more and more and papers are devoting increasing attention to them, as witness the

numerous special articles on fiscals now constantly appearing. The latest to fall into line is our esteemed Cuban contemporary, the *Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica Cubana*. In No. 7 it begins an extended article on the fiscals of Cuba from the pen of the noted fiscalist Sr. Juan Souto Mayor. The subject is a very involved one; a table given by the author shows that no less than 32 kinds of revenue stamps have been used in Cuba. The article begins with the *Derecho Judicial* series and brings them up to 1881, the last year in which they were used. Fiscal collectors will follow this article with interest, and I might only wish that official data were given from the various issues.

No. 8 brings the sad information of the death of Sr. Miguel Lazars, a prominent member of the Cuban Society, who died on July 17. The fiscal article deals with the *Documentos de Policia fiscals*—a fearful array of them.

We have heard a good deal about Uncle Sam's summer gum and winter gum for stamps, but the following from *Szekula Briefmarken-Verkehr* goes it one better:

"We learn that in summer thin paper is used for the stamps of Queensland, not for the sake of coolness like thin clothes, but because thick paper cracks from the gum in hot weather. Perhaps it would be simpler to use thin paper the year round."

This is a new one to me; I haven't heard any mention heretofore of current Queensland is on thin paper. What between summer paper and winter gum the prospect is becoming positively alarming.

From the same paper I quote the following (it is in turn quoted from a Roumania daily paper):

"The State Monopoly Administration which manufactures the stamps of Roumania, has held competition for a change in the present stamps. Six designs were handed in, which were submitted to a commission consisting of an architect named Mincu, a sculptor named Hegel, the director of the match factory and a delegate of the Post Office Department, for decision. The committee will not decide until it has photographic reproductions of the designs in the size of stamps." It is dark to a non-official mind how the director of a match factory comes to be considered an expert on stamp designs. Perhaps he was selected to shed light on the subject

La Cote Reelle in No. 23-24 brings the details of a discovery which is almost sensational, when one considers how minutely the stamps of their own country have been studied by the French specialists. A few weeks ago an official document dated in 1859 fell into the hands of M. Lemaire, from which it appeared that the 10c postage due of the first issue of France was first lithographed, which is nothing new, and that it was then printed—here is the new discovery—first from a "composition" plate (it is not quite clear what the document means by this) and then from electrotyped plates. These two typographic plates may be distinguished by certain minute differences in the letters and figures, but more easily by the difference in size: copies from the former plate are exactly of the same size as the lithographed stamp, while those from the electro plate are quite a half millimeter narrower. The lithographed stamps and those from the "composition" plate measure 20x20 mm., while those from the electro plate measure $19\frac{1}{2} \times 19\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

It will be of mournful interest to collectors to learn that M. Joseph Blanc, the author of the design of the current French 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 centime stamps, has lately died.

Our contemporary from Bogota, El Coleccionista, in its No. 4 devotes an appreciative notice to the WEST in its review column. We are much gratified at the approbation of our Columbian brethren and modestly shall endeavor to deserve it. As to El Coleccionista, we wish it continued success and trust that it may be come for Columbia what the Revista was in Argentina. It has begun well so far. We learn from this number that there are now three philatelic papers in Columbia: El Coleccionista at Bogota, Revista Postal Colombiana at Bogota, and Colombia Postal at Medellin. Besides these the Colombian Post Office department publishes an official paper by the name of Revista Postal Telegrafico.

From Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, I have received No. 2. of a new paper entitled El Noticiero Filatelico. It consists chiefly of advertisements, but is well printed; we shall be glad to see it grow and prosper.

Spanish America is coming to the front; I have likewise received No. 2 of Mexico Filatelico, published at Mexico, D. F. the organ of the Mexican Filatelic Society. This paper starts out very promisingly and we hope that it may become a worthy exponent of Philately in our Southern Silver Republic. Part of the paper is devoted to an exhaustive history of Mexican postal affairs and stamp issues which promises well.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste in No. 287 gives some details on the new Belgian stamps to be issued next year on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the independence of Belgium. I quote as follows:

"The first of the new stamps to be printed are the 10, 20, 25 and 35 centimes; the others will follow. The effigy of the King is of striking resemblance and stands out in a very happy manner from the simple frame, free from over loading, which has been designed by a talented artist M. Henry Meunier. The king, to whom it was submitted, has approved it and has found that the artist has rendered his face very faithfully. The frames are of simple and sober character; they are composed of a garlands of oak and laurel leaves. The stamps are to be printed in typography at the Malines establishment. A new process is to be employed which has in other branches already given the best results. The colors of the stamps will not be materially modified. The stamps will no longer bear the word Postes and that barbaric word Posterijen; they have retained Belgique, Belgie and the figures of the value. The note Ne Pas Livrer Le Dimanche, as well as Niet Bestellen op Zondag, has also been retained." About this latter addition, the so-called Sunday Label, others of the Belgian papers, notably Le Timbrohile Belge, are making no little complaint as Pas ridiculous, superfluous, useless, etc., but that, of course, is all the good it does them.

France has just discontinued the issue of the 2fr. stamps; the stock on hand will be used up, but no more are to be issued to the postoffices.

The French Congo colony has just been divided into two parts, called Gabon and Moyen Congo (Middle Congo) respectively. Gabon will no doubt receive an issue of its own and will thus reenter the philatelic arena. The French colony of Senegal is also about to receive a new set engraved by Paul Tasset; they bear figures ta-

ken from the monument erected to Ballay at St. Louis, the capital of the colony. Finally it is not improbable, according to M. Mauey, that Algiers may receive a set of stamps of its own, as its revenues and expenditures have lately been entirely separated from those of France; a separate issue of stamps is thus made as most inevitable.

M. Rene de Saint-Marceaux, a French sculptor from Paris, has received the award of the jury in the final competition for a monument to the foundation of the Universal Postal Union, which is to be erected at Bern; his design will now be executed. Eight artists took part in this final competition; four German, three French, one Italian.

In almost every home there is a garret or a cellar or a "lumber room" where refuse and old papers which are considered worthless are thrown. Go into this attic or lumber room or cellar and look over the old letters and papers there and see if you can not find some stamps. Look on any old deeds or mortgages or receipts you can find, and see if you do not turn up some revenue stamps. Occasionally one finds a revenue stamp of considerable value. Even if you should not find anything of very great value, you will at least find some which you possibly have not got in your album, and who knows at just what minute a revenue stamp may become valuable? Be a stamp hunter. Get your neighbors to allow you to take the stamps off of their old correspondence they may have. They will allow you gladly, and you may find a rarity.

A Wiseacre's Waterloo B Y Z E N O

James Richmond Scovill has always passed as oracle of wisdom on matters philatelic. This assumption of superiority might be added, has not been wholly without reason, for besides being an authority on "pinks" Mr. Scovill can tell a rose from a red lilac at thirty paces with the naked eye. And that, as Bertha M. Clay would say is "going some."

In the city where Mr. Scovill resides he is president of a Philatelic Society.

In this organization, Mr. James Richmond Scovill has always been considered the court of last resort when matters in dispute where to be adjudicated and until recently his title to supremacy in the field of philately had not been questioned. But one day there arrived on the scene a certain person, Jones by name who was destined to become a serious contender for Scovill's hitherto unchallenged laurels.

This party, to use his own phraseology could do a few stunts himself, and the idea of removing his head-gear, figuratively speaking, to any one whatsoever, was a thought which he could not entertain. It was only natural, therefore, to that such a presuming poacher on the erudite Scovill's domains should sooner or later stir up more or less feeling.

On more than one occasion these masters of philatelic science had engaged in rather heated arguments, which, sad to relate had resulted rather disastrously for the aforesaid Scovill. Such a state of affairs was a constant thorn in the flesh to the latter who decided that heroic measures were imperative if his prestige was to be maintained. And so it

transpired that on the night of a certain meeting of the Society, of which Jones was not yet a member, Scovill outlined a plan to his associates of determining the exact status of his rival.

The routine business of the season having been dispatched the President proceeded to discourse at length on the details of his plan. Placing two stamps which apparently were exact duplicates on the table before him, he remarked. "Now if you will examine these closely you will note that they bear such striking resemblance that it is impossible to detect any difference whatever. And yet," he continued, rather complacently, "the one on my right is a counterfeit. The difference can only be detected with a powerful glass. Now my scheme is this: I have arranged with Brown here to send this stamp among others to Jones on approval, and marked at such a price that it will probably prove tempting.

If he bites, I think it will be sufficient evidence that he is hardly to be regarded as infallible."

Now, it happened that on this particular night, a certain Jap., Jing Sing by name, who was a wealthy curio dealer was an invited guest of one of the members at the meeting.

Unknown to any one present Jing Sing had formed an intimate acquaintance with Jones, which had grown into quite a warm friendship. While Scovill was outlining his plan, Jing Sing sat calmly fanning himself in a chair just adjoining, apparently giving silent acquiescence to the plan by an occasional nod. Just as Scovill was about to hand the stamp to Brown there was a rap at the door and every one looked up in response to the interruption.

All but Jing Sing.

While the others were occupied

momentarily, he made a deft movement with his fan and the position of the stamp was reversed. The caller proved to be a messenger boy with a telegram for Scovill and the latter after hastily reading it, handed one of the stamps to Brown and placing the other in an envelope, excused himself and left. Soon after the meeting broke up, each agreeing to maintain silence in regard to the plot.

A few days later Scovill was overjoyed to learn from Brown that Jones had taken the stamp and paid for it.

"Now, watch me," said Scovill, "just to rub it in let's call on him tonight."

Brown assented and that evening found the two in Jones apartments engaged in contemplation of the contents of his collection. So elated was Scovill at the success of his scheme that he forgot all the past unpleasantness and seemed to be the soul of good-humor.

Finally the long looked for moment arrived. They had reached the Chinese stamps and here was the one they were looking for. This was Scovill's golden opportunity. Quite a nice looking stamp you've got here." Then he added, "It's too bad it's a counterfeit."

But Jones didn't agree with him. "Mr. Scovill," he remarked with some asperity, "I'm surprised that you would insinuate for a moment that there is a single stamp in my collection that is not genuine."

"Well, it is barely possible that I am wrong," said Scovill "and yet my conviction is so deep seated that I would be willing to wager ten simoleons that my judgment is correct."

"As I seem to experience an equal amount of confidence in my ability to tell the real thing when I see it," said Jones sarcastically, "I think I will have to call that beat and raise

you ten." Jones was getting warmed up, Scovill agreed to the last proposition and the money was put up in Brown's hands. Puff of New York was to be the referee.

"I don't believe in betting," said Scovill at the door a few moments later, "but I don't consider this gambling, ones—this is merely a gift on your part." Jones bade his visitors good night in as pleasant a voice as he could muster and then slammed the door. "I'm glad he don't think it's counterfeit" said Brown "because that let's me out."

It was about a week later when the decision came to Brown from New York in the laconic message "Stamp O. K." The shock these words occasioned Brown was naturally anything but gentle. But poor Scovill! About three weeks after in response to an anxious inquiry from Brown the attending physician replied that with care recovery was not impossible. "I fear though," he added, "that he will never be quite the same."

No one but Jing Sing ever found out just how it happened.

When Jones related the incident to the Jap the latter made no audible comment but over his usually stolid features flitted a happy contented smile.

No matter how common a stamp may be it should be handled with the same respect as a rarity of the first water. Many of the scarcest stamps were once common, and the changes of issues are always taking place. See that you pick out a lightly cancelled specimen, not torn or damaged and perforated all around. Place it carefully in your album or book with a hinge. Do not paste it down solid.

Hit and Miss Papers

By VERA WESTON HANWAY

NO. V. The Philatelic Literature of America.

I have been impressed with the condition of philatelic literature ever since my interest in philately was first aroused. Taking the literature of other hobbies into comparison our own appears ample. No hobby can boast of as extensive and varied a literature.

It is my opinion that the literature has to a great extent made philately what it is at present. Philately admits of much study and research, but without an ample literature this consideration would not have held the possibilities for the delving and studious collector that it has,

Let us lay aside all consideration of books that deal with philately and take only the current magazines which make their appearance from time to time. I humbly apologize if in the following comments I tread upon anyones toes, still.

Is our literature all that it should be? Philately by right of its numerical strength should possess the best that is to be had. By right of its superior excellence. it certainly deserves the most excellent of attachees.

In some respects our journals favorably compare with any other competitors. We have some that in get-up and literary flavor are all that any senisble preson would desire, but we have others which to draw it mildly appear as if the editors and publishers used their odds and ends of time, paper, printing, and even the philatelic writers odds and ends in the effort to make a paper. There was even, once upon a time as the children say, a man who remarked that

with plenty of ink and paper he thought he could make a pretty good stamp journal. There are, too state a fact, a great many papers in existence today which are certainly not composed of much else.

Some philatelists have from time to time made sarcastic remarks upon the contents of our journals. Even editors have been led to lament the present condition of things, and wonder why writers do not put forth their best efforts. From a critical point of view I do not see that our literature is so dilapidated. Some rather effusive missels from time to time appear in our literature, but this is the case with literature of all classes, and in the majority of instances these are confined to the less important journals.

A so called philatelic cynic once had the temerity and audacity to get at the bottom of our literature question. He declared that the keynote of improvement lay in properly encouraging the writers. His definiion of encouragement seemed to consist of the fact that writers did not get sufficient pay that philatelic genius could hardly be kept alive by a couple dollars payment for five or six days labor. For this view his essay was called a "weak offusion and was made the subject of a scathing review. A delightfully sarcastic man of my acquaintance once made the following remark: "Truth to a guilty conscience is like ceyenne pepper sprinkled on a worm, it don't hurt much but Oh Lord, how it makes them squirm!" Which remark illustrates the point in question.

Still it is sad to see the many worthy papers dying off. Of course new ones are constantly springing up many as worthy as those that have decayed. Yet we dislike to see our

old favorites dying. And what makes it more sad is that in a great many cases there is no reason why they should permit themselves to fall into oblivion.

I at one time thought America possessed an abundance of philatelic literature. After much consideration of the subject I still think so. But after deducting the really useful from the abundance I do not find more than six or seven journals that are really all that may be desired.

With this scanty list which is really strained to the utmost limits and probably could not be verified we must fain be content. Of course there are others which pretend to cater to the philatelic public, but philatelists would be much better off without the nonentities and one or two high class journals substituted.

Philately could and should sustain and support a much larger list. It is no wonder that philatelic readers are unsatisfied and turn to the leading British and Continental journals for further knowledge.

The true philatelist is always striving to increase his knowledge and if there were in this country a few more journals advocating a more general devotion to serious study American philately would be vastly benefitted.

What philatelists desire also more magazines like the WEST controlled by public spirited collectors and not by dealers. The dealer cannot give his journal the attention that an individual would be able to. Literature of all sorts requires time, money and effort to be spent in the development.

I do not think there are many publishers who would not welcome new competitors. All journals were new once and those that have spent a useful existence need not fear that they will be supplanted.

Catalogue de Timbres Fiscaux, Yvert & Tellier, Amiens, 1905 price \$1.50 is quite an expensive little volume for its size, being no larger than the common standards on postage stamps. Yet a fiscal catalogue was a thing so much needed, and the number of collectors, who will take interest in a catalogue listing all revenue stamps of the whole world, seems to be so large, that notwithstanding the high price this little book ought to find very ready sale. The difficulty of the French language need not deter any one from buying it, the terms used being so near the English that most any collector can make good use of the book with very little trouble. Mr. Nast, our revenue editor, will review the book more thoroughly, yet I thought it well to say these few words, because collectors who get the book will in all likelihood be thankful for being urged to obtain it. Criticising a book is much easier than making a better one, and as long as we have no better one it seems best to refrain from criticism and to encourage as much as may be the enterprise of the pioneers on a new field. The book may be obtained from Gilbert Koehler 15 Rue de Turin, Paris, France. They deal in all kinds of revenues and correspond in French, English, German, Italian and Spanish. (L. G. Dorpat.)

The following postoffices have been established in the Panama Canal zone: Ancon, Bas Ubispo, Boheo, Chrystobal, Culbera, Empiro, Gorgona, and La Boca. Ancon and Chrystobal are to be money order offices. The governor has the power of establishing any other post offices that may be needed.

Some Solitary Stamps ***B Y E . C O A T E S***

There are very few stamps in stampdom which are without kith or kin, are all alone and such few as there are. They are usually rather "good stamps" whether gotten used or unused. One of the best of these is the 10c stamp rose color issued by the Royal Steam packet Co., in the West Indian Islands. This stamp seems to be very much as alone as there are no varieties, shades, etc., that I know of. It is perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ and the "Standard" catalogues it \$300. used or unused. There, is another solitary stamp from the West Indies. The Hamburg American Mail Co. This line issued one year later than the Royal Mail Co., in 1876 a stamp whose face value was also 10c and it is lithographed blue and red on white wove paper and perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$. It was used between St. Thomas and Venezuela, Porto Rica, Curaco, Domingo, Hayti and Maracaibo "on steamers in the West Indian Intercolonial service" in the seventies till The Universal Postal Union covered the territory for both the "Royal" and "Hamburg American" Mail Co's. From The Southern End of South America comes the next example of a solitary stamp. The Tierra Del Fuego Stamp is said to have been used without Postmaster or Postoffice either. In color it is carmine and in appearance being a miner's stamp having for design a star in the upper left hand corner a pick and sledge crossed in the center and the reverse side of a letter in the lower right hand corner. Another solitary stamp is the 2p blue. Lady McClead S. N. Co. Stamp issued in 1847. It is unimperforated and it is a very rare stamp being cat \$7500. used. The design gives no clue to the value as

it is just a ship sailing with L. McL. beneath. It was issued in the first years of the use of adhesives and it certainly would be a welcome addition to any collection. It has been used by the company who issued it in Trinidad and was about the first stamp issued there. Another solitary stamp was an Antigua 1887 used in St. Christopher, a 1p Rose Red and cat. at \$500 used. It may be distinguished by the post mark "A 12"

Italy's offices in Crete and Tripoli have so far solitary stamps being surcharged for Crete Lacanea 1 Piaster and for Tripoli Bengasi 1 piastre on 25c. Blue in 1901 and being perforated the same as a 1901 issue of Italy. These stamps are not very high priced but with the foregoing and the following it would make a very good collection of "Hermits" if I may speak so. They are cat. at 8c unused and are Nos. 701 and 751 in the Standard catalogues. Another rare and solitary stamp was the Porto Rico 5c black issued for Coamo of which there are 10 varieties. C. at No. 200. Issued in 1898 it has become rather rare being worth \$25 used or unused. The design of this stamp is very simple being imperforate with "Corros" at the top 5 cents in the middle and Coamo at the bottom. One more "hermit" and it will finish us for the present. This last is a Swiss for Bale Canton issued in 1845. It is imperforate and is a "good" stamp being catalogued at \$50 unused and \$30 used. The color of this stamp is black, crimson and blue and the face value is $2\frac{1}{2}$ Rappelen. Now I am through and I might as well say that anyone possessing a really good collection of Hermit stamps may consider himself very lucky as nearly all stamps that are "Solitaires" are rather high priced excepting Italy's offices in Crete and Tripoli.

Stamp Collecting Reform

G. GRANDPIERRE

Even the most enthusiastic stamp collector must admit, that stamp collecting needs a thorough reform. A thousand or more new issues appear every year, most of which a "medium" collector will never be able to get and which even the man with large means has difficulty to obtain. The number of pages of albums increase with the total number of stamps issued and of course the number of blank spaces augments in the same strain.

Now, what is more discouraging than a thousand and one blank spaces? The impossibility to fill an appreciable part of them is the chief reason why many young collector renounced our hobby. Who has not felt discouraged at least at one time, because he had no prospect to complete certain countries or even certain sets?

The most urgent reform is that of the albums. The present bound albums are simply a non sens and do philately more harm than good. Even the smaller ones contain a greater number of useless pages whilst certain countries, of which a collector might have the chance to get a greater number of stamps, have not enough of them. Now that a collector can hardly do without a catalogue the printed vignettes on the albums are no more necessary and the only practical album is the one with interchangeable leaves and self binder. But the price asked for them is prohibitive for the greatest number of collectors. It seems to me that the suppression of the cost of the vignettes would pay for the self binder mechanism and that it would be possible to manufacture an album with interchangeable leaves and selfbinder at about the same cost

than the albums with thousands of vignettes.

Thus the beginner and "medium" collector would have in his album only a number of pages corresponding with the size of his collection and would not be remembered daily that the thousand or few thousand stamps he has are nothing in comparison to the number of stamps he should have.

Many ways to limit the number of stamps to be collected have been suggested. For instance, one of my friends dispises all new issues and does not go further than what the British call the "Victorian aera". Another philatelist of my acquaintance is interested only in the so-called Kings heads and their contemporain issues. The latter argues with right, that the modern issues make a much nicer show, whilst the former finds more material for study in the earlier issues. Both are right in their ways and both have limited considerably the number of stamps they have to look for and have a better chance to complete at least some countries or sets. But this system will not satisfy everybody. I would myself neither miss in my collection some of the "good old stamps" nor many of the beautiful specimens of modern engraving and printing of late years. On the other hand I have cut entirely all modern more or less speculative surcharges, all French and Portugese colonies except one of each type and all the stamps of small colonies and protectorates issuing stamps mainly to increase their revenues with the money of collectors (Labuan, San Marino etc.)

This cut list eliminates from the number of stamps to be collected about 4000. Too much remain still, even for an advanced collector, if he is not really wealthy. I reduce further the aim to be arrived at in col-

ecting only any one value of each type of the new issues and except in the few countries I am particularly fond of, do not take into consideration the differences of perforation, watermarks and paper listed in the catalogues, and sometimes marked at fanciful high prices.

Thus I reckon that my collection of stamps, as I understand it, will be nearly complete with 10-12000 stamps. When this will be attained, I might recind some of the restrictions above mentioned.

I know my way of collecting is subject to criticism but I found it better than to strive at the impossible.

Another way of reform is specialism and how easy to specialize will be the subject of another article.

Stamp Collecting Keeps **BY C. E. BEAUFRE**

I have found stamp collecting a source of never ending pleasure. I am an old soldier of our civil war and for over 20 years have been confined to my home, almost a helpless cripple, from injuries received in that service. Some two or three years ago a friend got me a stamp album stating that if I would try and get a collection it would be a nice pastime for me. I commenced at once and never since has my interest and pleasure lagged. The more I got into it the more interested I became.

Owing to my helpless condition friends of the old soldier have been glad to help me in my fad and I have at the present time nice correspondence in all parts of the world. When I am suffering from pain (which I am a good deal of the time) I get my album out and invariably

get so interested that I forget my helpless condition and I can assure the readers of the WEST that as long as I live I will take an interest in stamp collecting.

No one not similarly afflicted can imagine what it is to be confined to their home for 20 long years and I am very thankful to that friend who got me my album and pointed out the way for me to find recreation and pleasure.

I have taken the WEST for two or three years and read it from end to end, gaining much useful knowledge. Was much interested in reading the article by L. L. Voelchert in the August number on, "Why I collect stamps" and can say that he has hit on our hobby in the right place. In reading Miss Hanway's article it seems to me that we should gladly welcome all ladies as sisters in our philatelic pursuits. Although an old man I say to my sisters there is nothing better to which you could devote your leisure time. Clean wholesome, educational and not like a new bonnet or dress for it does not go out of fashion. Then I think all the young men who are stamp collectors would be pleased to call their young lady friends sister. Of course I have heard it said that sometimes a young woman tells a young man that she can only be a sister to him but that is another question. Love of stamps becomes a mutual love.

There are no sets of stamps more interesting than the various issues of Uruguay. One may discern in the series of the different years the progress of engraving from the early years of the manufacture of stamps down to the present time.

Historical Value of Stamps

By ORVILLE TOBIAS

It seems to me that one of the greatest advantages arising from the study of stamps comes from an historical point of view. The kind of history that stamps themselves tell—the history of the rise and fall of Empires, stories of war, of political intrigue, of royal families that are as easily traced in portrait and design as though written by the hand of master historian. Philatelic journals are full of matter on the details of shades, perforations, and watermarks, but there seems to be a lack of matter relating to why such and such designs appear on such and such stamps. Probably no stamps portray more vividly the rise and fall of a republic than do those of the Transvaal. Beginning with the Boer issue of 1840 and continuing down nearly to the present time, no words could more plainly tell of the rise and fall of a nation than do the stamps of South African Republic. Among the stamps which affect history, or I should say the history that affects stamps is that of the "Napoleonic Influence," and it is both interesting and enlightening to see how many traces of Napoleon can be found in our albums.

In the stamps of Sweden the traces of Napoleon are visible in the face of Oscar the present king who was a lineal descendant of one of Napoleons greatest generals, Marshall Benadotte. Maximilian of Mexico a satellite of Louis Napoleon and Louis Napoleon himself all live for us in our albums.

And where can the historical part of stamp collecting be better exemplified than in our own great Republic of the United States. Here it

has been the custom since stamp issuing begun to adorn the stamps with portraits of our illustrious men. Of these Washington holds the post of honor and the rise of this great Republic is so closely interwoven with the life of Washington that one cannot speak of one without dwelling upon the other. The commemorative series issued several times in the history of our country all tell plainly of some great event and especially do those of the Columbian issue of 1892, and the Louisiana Purchase Exposition stamps of 1904.

And so it is with nearly every stamp issuing country. They seem to take pride in telling on the face of their stamps the stories of their greatness.

Columns could be written upon the historical value of stamps—the famous men, the illustrious deeds they exploit; and the noted events they so vividly portray. And who shall say that these are not as great as the detection of a watermark or the measurement of a surcharge.

A well chosen collection of stamps is a gallery of Art; a library of knowledge; and a record of achievements all in one. And it seems to me that had Philately no other excuse the knowledge accruing from its study would be more than enough for its justification and supremacy as the greatest of hobbies.

Advertising is the only means by which you can continually insist on being patronized. You can force recognition in no other way. It is a representative that is sure of admittance within the doors of your townspeople as often as you wish. You have full sway and may present an argument that has been boiled down in advance.

*Counterfeits and Their
Detection*
BY R R THIELE



Genuine.

Counterfeit.

THURN & TAXIS The 10 silber-
groschen
orange of the 1859 issue of Thurn &
Taxis is no great rarity in an unused
state, but that has not discouraged
some counterfeiter who is evidently
satisfied with quick sales and small
profits. He has thus gone to work
and produced a passable imitation of
this stamp and we bring reproductions
of both the original and the im-
itation above. The original is typog-
raphed, while the forgery is a litho-
graph, though a pretty good one and
calculated to deceive the beginner.
Happily there are distinguishing fea-
tures enough after all. The most
striking one is found in the central
figure 1. As one can easily observe
in the above cuts, the little hook at
the right lower extremity of the fig-
ure is much too short and small in
the forgery. At the left lower ex-
tremity of the figure the notch ex-
tending into the ball terminating
the figure lie indented too deeply on
the counterfeit, in much the same
manner as on the U. S. 12c of the
Continental print of 1873 as compared
with the National print of 1870-71.
The figure 0 also differs, though less
conspicuously: the central opening is
not as regular an oval on the coun-
terfeit as on the original. The cen-

tral background containing tiny rep-
etitions of the figure 10 exhibits small
variations from the original, but it is
very difficult to describe them in
words. One such difference, more
marked than others, is found above
the upper serif of the large figure 1.
Over this at the left, near the line of
the central square, is one of the
small figures 10. In the original the
0 of this group is entirely clear of
the large figure 1; on the forgery it
is partly hidden by the upper part of
the 1. All the figures 0 in the small
groups of the background seem to be
a trifle too narrow on the forgery, as
you can see above. The figures 10
in the small shields at each corner of
the central square are somewhat too
large on the counterfeit; this is es-
pecially noticeable on the two upper
shields. The circles in the outer
corners containing the posthorns are
lined vertically very regularly on the
original, while on the counterfeits
the lines are very much blurred and
indistinct. The lettering of the in-
scriptions shows divers defects. The
m of Freimarke in the upper label is
shorter than the other letters, which
is not the case on the original. The
a of the same word is taller than
on the original. In the righthand label
the and between Thurn and Taxis is
crooked on the counterfeit, but in
line on the original. The letters T
of these words on the original have a
fine vertical line at the right, which
does not appear on the counterfeit;
still this may be due merely to defec-
tive printing. The words 10 Silb
Grosch in the lower label are much
too small and low on the forgery as
compared with the original—vide the
illustrations above. The small tooth
or fret like ornaments around the in-
scribed labels afford good tests for
those with good eyes. Thus on the
upper edge of the lower label, be-
tween the shields, the original has 16

entire teeth, the forgery only 13. Each of the labels on the original has 16 teeth in the corresponding place between the teeth; on the counterfeit the number of these teeth in these positions is as follows, respectively: left label, 14; upper label, 16; right label, 15. One or the other of all these characteristics will surely be visible and ought to suffice the observant collector.

The counterfeit before me is not "postmarked." So much the better for the imitation of postmarks on the Thurn and Taxis stamps, so many of which are far rarer used than unused, is a specialty in itself and numberless such fraudulent postmarks can be found in collections. But this side of the subject would lead us rather too far for present consideration.

(To be continued.)

Woman Collectors Department

Devoted to the Interests of the Woman Collector
VERNA WESBOM HANWAY
Box 156, Dallas, Pa.

According to a correspondent Mancos Canon, Colorado, near the New Mexico line, possess ruins of prehistoric Americans that are not rivaled by any other works on the continent. Here scientists have been enabled to learn more from the silent evidences of a former civilization than has been gained elsewhere of those who lived, moved and had their being in the ages before mariners dreamt of a western passage. In the rooms of the Colorado Historical Society in the Capitol building at Denver is arranged a splendid collection from these ruins including numerous mummified forms of the inhabitants, wrapped in leather cloth, their implements of agriculture which told of industry and peace, creations

that eloquently testify to an acquaintance with arts and sciences to a surprising degree. A few articles prove some familiarity with metals, skulls disclose fair mental development while implements used in binding broken limbs and bones that are well healed prove efficiency in some forms of surgery. Their homes strewn in the solid formation of the eternal hills are the enduring monuments of their industry though of intelligent interpretation can be made of many hieroglyphics upon the articles daily used in the pursuits of their times.

I am very much taken with the new manner of keeping a collection of stamps, the Cistipile. This system is being extensively advertised in Europe and America. The system is one which cannot fail to appeal to a collector of fastidious tastes, one who wishes their collections mounted in an artistic manner which always presents an appearance of completeness and neatness. I have for years used a somewhat similar device for revenues and odds and ends, consisting of a leather covered box, in which I kept a file of cards six by five inches with a net work back ground. I have really taken much more interest in the appearance of these odds and ends than of the bulk of my collection, for the obvious reason that this portion of my collection always presented an appearance of neatness.

I hear that a woman collector has gathered a very large and interesting collection of trading stamps. There seems to be no end to the possibilities for collecting. Every now and then we hear of some odd and unique collection in some hitherto unnoticed field.

The famous Duchess of Portsmouth was the model of Britannia stamped upon all British copper coins since Charles II.

Conservative Speculation **By WELLINGTON BREZEE**

If the speculative element was entirely eliminated from philately, what would its status be as a fad or fancy among the collectors of today. If there was no intrinsic value connected with the rarity of a stamp would we stand awe-struck at sight of a 2c "Postoffice Mauritius" or other stamps equally as rare.

If there was no incentive other than mere possession, philately generally speaking would soon be a thing of the past.

Legitimate speculation is necessary to stimulate and foster the growth of philately. And this in no way detracts from the pleasure of collecting but rather adds to it in giving zest to our efforts and an increased significance and value to our collections as a whole.

We all love our hobby and there are many precious memories recalled of old time faces and pleasant evenings spent with those whose paths of life have left us naught but the recollections of by-gone days. But our collections are all the dearer to us when we consider that the result of our efforts has a value attached, which, in the natural order of things is bound to increase and some day substantially reward us for our patience in building up our collections.

Conservative speculations and progressiveness go hand in hand. When we buy a stamp we speculate as to its present standing and coming worth. If it be a rare specimen, the thought that its present worth will be greatly increased in the years to come fills us with satisfaction, for we have made an investment which appeals to the saving instinct which is inherent in most of us and which must be gratified and in order that we may enjoy

our collections to the fullest extent.

What has been the leading feature in giving nine out of ten collectors their first start in stamp collecting? What first attracted their attention and roused their interest in the "stamp craze?" Immediate or prospective speculation has been the means of adding thousands to the cause of philately. We all remember the unbounded enthusiasm of our first collecting days. We were sure that it would fall to our lot to make a find somewhere, that would cause us to be envied by all of our stamp collecting acquaintances and net us a large sum of money beside. This lent an eagerness to our quest for stamps which could not have been given by any other inducement, however great. This stage once passed, the true philatelist emerges, who collects not for present profit and its attendant exhilaration, but for the pleasure and fascination of a pursuit in which refinement and intellectuality are combined in a pleasing manner and whose environments are largely those of the home life. And perhaps the children are interested and who knows but that some day these pleasant scenes, in which his stamp collection plays so prominent a part, may repeat themselves in the years to come when his collection built on sound principles, may stand between him and a mere existence and will justify the claims of the legitimate speculator, who investigates the merits or demerits and the probable finale of a stamp before adding it to his collection.

Thus the stamp collector can ride his hobby as he can best afford, resting easy in the assurance that a wise investment will yield a full return, giving him a combination of pleasure and profit not to be equalled by any other form of collecting extant.

My Favorite Country **BY HARRY P. LETTON**

When I started to collect, I took everything in the stamp line which I could get, although I made it my aim to get stamps of my own country. I did this as I thought they were prettier and easier to understand, then most foreign.

When my collection grew larger and I brought a International album and put my collection in it. The album was so large that my foreign stamps seemed lost in it and so I decided that it would take more money than I had for stamps, to ever get it very full and would therefore collect only United States.

I hunted among my grand-father's old papers and letters and was rewarded by finding old 1st issue imperforate revenues and also some old unused postage.

Soon after this I sold my album and all the foreign stamps in it and bought a National and devoted myself entirely to collecting United States postage and revenue.

I will now give several reasons why I collect United States and what is to be learned.

I know the history of all the men whose pictures are on them and that makes them very interesting. The chief pleasure to me in collecting U. S. is that there is the chance of finding valuable specimens on old papers and letters hidden away in an old garret and I enjoy very much looking for them.

By carefully studying the stamp a great deal more can be learned than is first seen as the background of the four cent Pan American is the National Capitol at Washington and then the recent marks on the issue of 1873.

Another reason for collecting only United States is that there are not near so many and an almost complete collection may be obtained in time.

One may say that they cost so much more than foreign that is so in one respect as after one gets 200 varieties they will catalogue 10 cents each and up, but if care is used in buying he can get them at about $\frac{1}{4}$ catalogue value and also every new stamp makes the collection more complete than in a foreign one.

Another advantage in collecting U. S. is that one does not have to contend with a new issue every month or so as in foreign.

In regard to the financial gain in collecting U. S. I believe that they are good stamps to buy now as more collectors collect them than formerly and they are therefore becoming rare and the price is raising. United States stamps which could be obtained several years ago very cheap are now hard to get and are becoming scarcer every day.

My collection is not very large one but I am constantly adding to it and in time I expect to get all its spaces filled.

When you receive your WEST each month do not let its usefulness die with you—pass it on. There is no plan of propaganda that is better than that of a marked copy sent to your friends. When you hand out a paper don't fail to blue pencil some paragraph of interest—you may be sure it will be read and passed along.

It's the fire under the kittle thet keeps it boilin'—it' the advertisin' an enthusiasm back of the business thet keeps it goin'.

*The Stamps of the
Netherlands*
By C GRANDPIERRE

(Continued from last number.)

I have found the following "types" of the "s":

1. Rather thin figure, upper tail neatly curved on both sides (early prints).

2. About same but left half of the topmost line straight, right half curved.

3. About same but end of top tail thicker.

4. Topmost line straight.

5. Thicker tail altogether.

6. Vertical part straight on left.

7. Vertical part curved on left.

8. Vertical part thicker at upper end.

9. Very thin on top of part looking like inverted "C".

10. Same part thicker.

11. Ball badly shaped.

12. Ball round.

13. "5" wide open.

14. More close.

14. Nearly close.

All the values of the issue have been re-engraved with the probable exception of the 2p. 50c. As they show all nearly the same particularities, I will not repeat but simply mention two interesting, not infrequent minor varieties. On some of the 20cents, a dark dot is to be found below the "0". The history of this dot can easily be followed. First appear below the "0" two very small breaks in the interior line of the frame, on later prints the breaks appear larger and larger until part of the line having moved towards the "0" forms a distinct dot leaving below a large gap in the frame.

The 25 cent is to be found with a spilt "T" and the left upper part entirely separated.

Besides the above varieties of dies, which a specialist might call "types" we have an immense variety of what the writer of article in May issue wrongly calls "breaks", but hardly deserve to be recorded at all even not by specialists, because they are produced neither through re-engravings, nor through defects in the dies. The cause is simply bad impression, chiefly through defective inking. The number of those "breaks" is practically limited, the latter impressions having been carelessly executed. The most frequent of them is the partial or entire disappearance of the line of the cartouche below "Cent". As examples I mention "breaks" in the circular or rectiline frames or of the circle or dots, a great variety of small dark dots in the middle of the white dots forcing forming circle, breaks in the shading, in the horizontal lines and in the lettering, hardly two of them being exactly alike.

PERFORATIONS.

The earliest perforations were those with small holes. I found the following:

14, $13\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, 13, 13×14 (rare) 13×12 (rare) $12\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 12x, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, all small holes $12\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ pin holes and rough perforations.

Later follows:

$13\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ large holes. Clean cut. Then: $12\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $12 \times 11 \times 12$, $12 \times 12 \times 11$, and 11×12 medium sized holes and finally (probably from 1890)

12 largest holes (clean cut).

Stanley Gibbons listed the values 12, 25 and 50 perforated 14 large holes clean cut. I have been told that they list unused but never saw any of them. The same catalogue says that "perforation 11×12 was produced by a defect in the perforating ma-

chine which perforated the first stamp on the left 11x12 in each row of ten, the other nine stamps being perforated 12x12 and that "this defect was remedied before the 7, 22 and 1g values were issued".

That strange perforations like $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ and others were produced by defects in the machine cannot be doubted, most of the old perforations being very irregular. For instance we find many copies measuring exactly 12 holes on 20 millimeters, but 11 we measure only ten millimeters of perforations in the middle of the side of the stamp wearing often a $12\frac{1}{2}$ perforation.

On the other hand perforation $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ is found as well with pin as with medium sized holes and is in both cases very regular. This makes me think that what Gibbons says about this perforation is incorrect.

The above catalogue lists also the 5 and $12\frac{1}{2}$ cent values imperforate. All those I have seen offered for sale were either apparently trimmed perforated copies or simply cut squares of the 176 issued envelopes on white and horizontally laid paper, two qualities of paper never used for the adhesive stamps.

Scott lists all values imperforate, but even if we admit that some sheets remained without perforation, I don't think they were ever issued. The stamps of this issue are often found with wide margins on all sides so that a clipping of the perforation is an easy matter. Beware of those fakes.

Every value is to be found with all the above mentioned perforations, with the following exceptions:

2g. 50c. perforated only 13 to 14 small holes.

$7\frac{1}{2}$, $22\frac{1}{2}$ only $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$

1 g perforated only $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1$.

I never heard of a perforated 11x12 mentioned in a correspondence in your last number. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ is

found chiefly with deep or bright colors and not pale as said in same article. The reader will find more contradiction which I have no time to mention.

SHADES.

The earliest prints of the 5 cents are deep and bright ultramarine, though already before the first re-engraving the color is much paler. From 1874 the color varies almost with every impression and chronological classification becomes impossible. We find the deepest and the brightest ultramarine and the palest, sometimes turning to lilac and even violet, than the whole of the 8 blue shades and seldom, some Prussian blue. I have collected over 600 different shades of the 5 cent, divided in 43 groups of color.

The $7\frac{1}{2}$, $22\frac{1}{2}$ and 1g issued 1888 are fairly constant colors with differences in depth only.

Of the 10 cents we find ten groups of shades varying from deep and bright carmine to red-carmine, carmine-lake, red and pink.

$12\frac{1}{2}$ cents: grey, bluish-grey, slate-grey, olive-grey.

15 cents: Orange brown to orange-red and bistre-brown.

20 cents: yellow-green, green to blue-green, few deep green 25 cents: purple to brown-purple, and violet-purple, dull purple to grey-purple.

50 cents: Bistre to yellow-green.

PAPER.

Probably no issue of stamps in the world shows a greater variety of qualities of paper. I have found 21 absolutely distinct varieties and considerable larger number could certainly be found with paper-testing instruments. They vary from thick to thin soft or hard wove, from opaque and quasi opaque to nearly transparent with a few copies on pelure paper. The texture varies also from the smoothest chiffon to the rugged and the common wood pulp paper.

(Continued.)

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Washington Notes *A B Y C. M. A*

There are several publications this month of interest to students of the natural sciences, but they are all hard to procure and application through a member of Congress is about the only method. The Exposition Board of the Insular Bureau, War department has published "Album of Philippine Types, representing 37 provinces and islands: by Daniel Folkmar: 160 illustrations". The quarterly "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections" contains a number of articles mainly on fishes, while the National Museum "Proceedings for 1904" is largely devoted to birds and insects.

The report of the Chief of the Secret Service for 1904 shows considerable activity on the part of these officers. Many classes of counterfeits were seized, together with the materials and tools for their manufacture. The majority were of United States notes and coins, but among other items appear foreign notes, foreign coins, spielmarks, defunct state bank notes, facsimile of Confederate State notes, merchandise scrip, trade checks, etc. There is also an item of 1013 facsimiles of United States postal cards, and three altered proof postage stamps. 419 arrests were made; 197 of these were convicted, 30 were acquitted 12, 3 are awaiting an acting of courts and grand juries, the remainder having been released on various grounds. It is recommended in order to add to the safety of the paper that a watermark be added in addition to its fiber.

By the time this appears in print it is probable that designs for the stamps of a new series for the Philippine Islands will be well under way.

As a matter of economy, as well as to suit the convenience of the Island government, it has been decided that the Bureau of Engraving & Printing is to prepare a series of plates, the printing from which will be at the Government Printing Office in Manila. It is calculated that at least six months will be required, the approval of designs requiring a tedious delay in reference to the Bureau of Posts at Manila.

Postal Counsellor Litzrodt of the Imperial German postal service made a thorough inspection of the Department and Washington City postoffice on his way to the St. Louis fair. The points on which he directed special attention were the railway mail service and the cancelling machines. It is safe to say that some American methods will shortly be "Made in Germany."

There is a class of advertisements of which the following may serve as an example:

"Pay us \$1 per week for 100 consecutive weeks and we will give you at the end of that time merchandise to the value of \$200".

The postoffice department is conducting a vigorous campaign against this class of frauds, and hardly a week passes but several schemes of this kind are debarred the use of the mails.

A new series of official stamps has been issued by Salvador. The stamps are printed on the 1903 series, which bears the inscription official in three languages — English, Spanish and French. The set consists of four values, the 1-centavos, green; 5c, dark blue, and 10c, violet.

Notes for U. S. Collectors
By E. R. ALDRICH

The Minneapolis Journal for April 2 contains the following which may suggest an idea to some of the readers of the WEST who are situated in cities which have a custom office.

Juvenile collectors of foreign postage stamps have found out that the office of C. R. Cooley, deputy collector of United States customs is a mine for stamps that are rare and wonderful. The correspondence with foreign ports is large, and during the month a number of foreign stamps are received. They are snapped up shortly after receipt by the enthusiastic collectors. The custom man has hard work to make an even distribution among those upon his list.

The Glass Block, Minneapolis, have recently distributed their fall catalogue. They were franked with a one and four cent precancelled stamp. All specimens I have seen were inverted.

The latest from Detroit, Mich., in precancelled line are the Louisiana Purchase one and two cent stamp and the three cent due.

From St. Paul the four cent comes with the St. Paul, Minn., surcharge being used on the Mail catalogue of Schuneman & Evans while the full list of the novelty house of G. Sommers & Co., comes again with the thirteen cent precancelled St. Paul.

I understand the entire current ordinary set from one to thirteen cent were precancelled at Racine for the use of the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Co., but that after a short trial the company decided to use only the one cent value. It is also stated

that a single sheet of dues of the one, two, five and ten cent value was also precancelled.

I recently clipped from a country newspaper the following item:

Under the law, the owners and masters of vessels not regularly engaged in the transportation of the mails are entitled to compensation on their arrival in port for letters brought and delivered by them to postoffices for transmission to destination. In every case the amount thus paid the owner or master of a vessel is collected by the postmaster at the office of delivery, in addition to the regular postage which amounts is therefore made good to the Government.

For the year ending June 30 1897 there were supplied to the different offices 212000 four cent envelopes of which 115250 or nearly sixty per cent were special return request printed and 340000 of the five cent value of which 165500 or nearly half had the return card.

According to the report of the third assistant postmaster general for 1897 the office of Akroa, showed the enormous increase in the mailing of second class matter of 284 per cent.

It would seem that July 19 could be safely placed as the date of the first issuance of the Canal Zone surcharged U. S. stamps.

The philatelic society of India has decided to complete the India section of the Tapling collection. This collection was made by the late T. K. Tapling, a member of parliament. After his death in 1891 the collection was placed in the British museum. It is now valued at half a million dollars.



DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY.

By L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis.

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

NOTE: The "Stamp Collector" an English paper, has a "Queries and Replies Competition" and it seems the readers there furnish both the questions and the replies. There are two numbers, which may interest the readers of the WEST, viz:

13. "What is meant by the 'Maltese Sixpence' of Great Britain?"

Several correspondents thought the "Maltese Sixpence" might be an ordinary British 6d stamp used in Malta, prior to 1885, when the Island received its own set of postage stamps (which, by the way, does not contain the sixpence value). But this is not the meaning of the term, and we read the "Stamp Collector's" Monthly, November, 1891, p 199, the following explanation: By an oversight, while plate 5 of Great Britain, 6d lilac, 1865 was in use some sheets were printed on unwatermarked paper and included in a supply sent to Matla where British stamps were used for correspondence beyond the limits of the island. This circumstance has gained for his variety the name of "Maltese Sixpence"—W. K.

15. For what reason was the Venezuela Commemorative stamp of 1896 issued? Is it true that the boundary line depicted in the design almost caused war if so between what countries? The words "Apoteosis de Miranda" the deification of Mi-

randa explain the issue of this stamp. Francisco Miranda born in 1754 was the first leader of the Revolution which constituted Venezuela as an Independent State and was the first step towards the freedom of the whole South American Continent. After fighting under Washington in the Northern Continent in 1783 he raised the Standard of Liberty in the South. Twice he was unsuccessful. The first time he fled to Russia and became the accepted lover of Catherine the Great, the second time he fled to England and found refuge in the slums of London. Meanwhile, the cause of Liberty in Venezuela was steadily advancing. In 1810, a "junta" of the citizens proclaimed Miranda as Commander-in-chief and Provisional President of the Republic. He was defeated by the Spaniards, under General Monteverdo, and compelled to recognize the Sovereignty of Spain. In 1812 he was betrayed into the hands of the Spanish and died in prison on the Island of Cetna, his body being cast into the sea. His papers were sold by his son to the British Government and are still supposed to be in the Archives of the Foreign Office in London. The lines on the stamp are meant to illustrate a long standing dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain as to the boundary line between the former and British Guiana. Ceded to Great Britain by the Dutch in 1814, England had always claimed that the ceded territory extended to the Orinoco. In this position, Spain, the northern country, seems to have acquiesced, but in 1840 Venezuela, now an Independent Republic, confronted England with a claim to territory as far as the Essequibo, which was absolutely repudiated. Up to 1886, various modifications of the original claim were pro-

posed to Venezuela, on condition of mutual concession—in 1881 by Granville, in 1884 by Lord Aberdeen, in 1886 by Rosebery (some of which are illustrated on the stamp), but without success. Diplomatic relations were broken off on the refusal of England to accept Venezuela's proposal of arbitration, and the matter remained in abeyance till 1890, when friendly relations were restored but without any settlement of the question. In 1886, the United States, on the strength of the Monroe doctrine, intervened with the offer of Arbitration, which was refused by Gt. Britain. In 1895 this offer was renewed and again refused, therefore President Cleveland suggested to the Congress of the United States that a Commission should be appointed to ascertain what was the true divisional line between the Republic of Venezuela and British Guiana, this being done, "it will be the duty of the United States to resist every means in its power, as a wilful aggression upon its right and interests, the appropriation by Great Britain of any lands, which after investigation, we have determined by right to belong to Venezuela." It was this statement of the President's that threatened to lead to a rupture between the United States and Great Britain.

C. E. T. Whitfield, M. A. Maida Hill, W." We have yet a few questions unanswered in the Department of Inquiry of the WEST and if any readers would follow the example of the readers of the "Stamp Collector" I would feel very thankful to them.

THE DELIGHT OF COLLECTING.

To those who have never felt the keen and growing delight of collecting things which except to collectors are merely old junk, to those who are so unhappy that the greatest object

of art or virtue they care to collect is a piece of green paper with the signature of the treasurer of the United States on it, it may seem that collecting things fit for nothing whatever except to be collected is a "craze" an evidence of mental alienation.

Let these remember that even if they could make their case and prove their view, every great mind must have a reflex action exactly proportioned to the forward action of its impulses. Hence, when I find any one openly forced at last to ride his hobby in the public gaze I look in him for those still secret and hidden virtues from the operation of which he thus found relief. They must have operated in him and on him at his own expense, until at last he had to do something for relief. Did he suddenly react into some world-appalling evidence of atavism? Not at all. Calmly at first, and with scarcely a single trace of his now overpowering enthusiasm, he began collecting something or other, and kept on until he became what he is now, the world's greatest living collector in the world envies when he sits in the hall of Congresses at the World's fair.

A nice sideline for collectors is the collection of envelope stamps. To show what can be done in the collection of envelopes, E. M. Rosenthal, of Chicago, recently displayed in that city a collection of 1475 United States envelopes, which included, of course, many smaller varieties that are not catalogued. Among the scarce specimens displayed were the 1870 one-cent blue Reay on white, blue lined on face of envelope; five-cent brown, 1879, on fawn, star watermark; 1884 Kellogg, two-cent red on blue; 1884 two-cent dieb, brown on white.

C o n d i t i o n **VERNA WESTON HANWAY**

Collectors of early time were all agreed upon the desirability of procuring as fine specimens of stamps as possible, but it is only of recent years that this view has become so general that a copy which is not up to the standard of perfection is looked upon with a certain degree of contempt.

The subject has been treated so often by our modern philatelic press, so much having been written upon the desirability of possessing only perfect and immaculate copies that philatelists of all ranks discard the good, average copies and leave unsightly holes in their collection while searching for the perfect. This has been carried to such an excess as to have become little short of a craze. Perfection in anything is but a visionary dream. The dream, however, in this instance promises to have a material interest upon the entire rank and file of collectors.

There is much to commend in the emphasis which is laid upon fine condition nowadays, but still more to condemn. A perfect specimen is something to be proud of, to be viewed with delight, it is vastly the superior of the imperfect one. An imperfect copy is a blemish to the collection, no one disputes this. Who would not choose the perfect in preference to the imperfect one? Indeed the person who would not do so would be little short of an idiot. It is only natural that the difference in market values between a fine copy and a poor one should be so marked. The distinguishing between perfect copies and inferior one is perfectly just and sound. The perfect in anything is always preferable to a second or third rate one. Still the

craze after fine copies seems to be breeding a tendency to undervalue stamps that are practically in a fair and good condition—what we might call the “middle class,” those that are good but not up to the standard of “fine”. Remember we are not even considering the tattered, smudged and torn copies, which come under the head of “poor” such stamps are not, or rather should not, be considered worthy to be placed in any self respecting, ordinary collection. Philatelists have undoubtedly been too lax, and have in the past put into their albums a great many specimens which were really an eyesore. It is a source of satisfaction to the student of present schools and tendencies to see the more aesthetic interest that has been brought to bear upon this subject.

Still because we have escaped from this mist is no reason for going to such extravagant lengths that we may justly designate the ambition as a craze. To have too high philatelic ideals is just as serious a mistake as to have too low. This mistake has made a great many, otherwise reasonable philatelists permit themselves to be led, and to lead others through the force of example and universal public opinion.

Some, aye many, we might say the majority, can never reach such dazzling heights. For so long as it is a fact that for every specialist there are twenty general collectors, that for every ten advanced collectors there are one hundred medium class collectors, and so long as it is a fact that for every hundred of the medium class there are a thousand primary collectors, there can be no doubt that the condition craze is carried to too great an excess.

We are continually informed through our press, with much glee

and congratulation, that market prices of fine specimens are steadily going up while that of good specimens is gradually decreasing. But is this in reality a cause for such excessive congratulation? Unfortunately the fine copy is the exception rather than the rule. The good, average copy as we may meet any day in a first class dealer's stock books and approval selections is the normal standard and over rules the fine by a majority of forty to one. How if stamps in the minority are to be the object of general desires, and those in the majority to be looked upon with contempt what will be the results? First the value of the average specimen will depreciate and continue to depreciate in value, while the copies which are the exception will steadily increase. Second as fine copies are very scarce, and their demand immense, philatelists will find it difficult to add to their albums stamps which meet their fastidious requirements. Third, the result will be a lessening of philatelic enthusiasm and the keenness of enjoyment. In fact a decrease in philatelists will be the inevitable result if this state of things would continue. Too high a standard would make philately altogether too arduous and exacting hobby. Philately to most of us means a pleasant recreation and study., The doing away with this hobby as a pleasure, thereby making it it even more of a science than it is at present would in the course of time decrease the number of followers. Is this a pleasant consideration?

Some argue if the collector cannot acquire fine specimens let him take the best he can find and be satisfied. This is the course which reason and common sense dictates and should appeal to collectors as a reasonable way out of their present difficulties.

The example held before collectors, the cry after "the perfect," makes it appear to the collector as his positive duty to gain only fine specimens, makes it appear that nothing short of fine is worth having, that nothing else will fill his needs. Such things appearing in our journalism as a recent advertisement advertising a collection which they termed "the well centered collection", stating that every copy was as near perfect as possible, helps to foster such ideas. This ad. was perfectly proper. The collector with the long purse desire such collections. However the impression made upon the ordinary collector is that he must "go and do likewise." This impression for the good of Philately should be eradicated as a impractical dream for the collector of ordinary means.

Collectors must be brought to see the impossibility of such general high ideals. Let us leave the golden apples for the opulent collector, and for ourselves take sweet and lucious fruit which is attainable. As I have tried to point out no good will come of this general movement towards perfection, instead much harm to Philately in general.

All of the coming issues will show marked improvement in this popular monthly. As a starter, we propose to clear our advertising columns of every advertisement that is not doing straight business. The fakes must go as fast as we discover them. As we do not know personally about advertisers in our columns we wish to ask our readers to kindly write us every case where they discover an advertiser who does not do as he agrees or who is advertising any fake or swindling proposition. Give us the facts. Don't tell us what you suspect but what you know. We will do the rest.

Why I Prefer Newfoundland Above the U. S.

B . Y . C . L . B .

Newfoundland issued her first series of stamps in 1857 and since that time she has issued eighty five different varieties including a beautiful Jubilee set, the Cabot issue of 1897. This country offers fine opportunities to the beginner. Although the first issue brings high prices at present, the other issues are all in the reach of the average collector. Other people may say that the United States or Canada offer better opportunities. Well, let us look at the U. S. for instance. Since her first issue she has issued in all 313 postage stamps and this does not include officials, colonies, revenues, or envelopes. Canada is just about the same. The catalogue prices of the early issues in both these countries are very high and therefore are not in reach of the average collector. Who can show a country where the stamps are any prettier than those of Newfoundland? The United States may boast of its Pan American set. How does it contrast with the Jubilee issue of 1879? Canada may show her Kings Heads, her Map stamps. How do they contrast with the dogs' heads in coloring and with the issue of 1898. Another comparison. The United States tried to show some of her industries and inventions on her stamps. We had the Express train, the automobile and the suspension bridge. Take up the Cabot issue of 1897 again. The former seem to fade away when contrasted with the latter. Here is the picture of the Queen on the 1c showing the ruler then, this in a beautiful queen. Next comes the 2c variety with the picture of Cabot, the discoverer of Newfoundland. The next eight varieties depict the different occupations on the island, sports, etc. All these

are printed in beautiful shades of blue, purple, violet, red, and olive. Finally comes the 60c black which shows the picture of Henry the VII who granted the charter to Cabot. Here we have in thirteen specimens the illustrated history of that event which meant the founding of Newfoundland. Lay the three commemorative sets issued by the U. S. including the Columbus, the Omaha, and the Pan American sets together and contrast them with this one set. Mark what a difference. The U. S. are all bulky and entirely too wide. The Newfoundlands are small, neat and compact.

Now let us look at the prices as compared between the U. S. and Newfoundland stamps. It is all the fad nowadays in philately to have a specialty. Now if one specialises in Newfoundlands he will find that he can get a better showing for the money invested than for either the United States or Canada. Beginning with the second issue of Newfoundland all the stamps can be gotten at a very low rate as compared to the United States. In Newfoundland's second issue the highest price stamp is cataloged at \$15, whereas in the U. S. second issue some of the stamps catalogue as high as \$100. Take another for example, the Columbian Exposition stamps run up as high as the \$5 value. The highest value in the Newfoundland Jubilee is only 60c. For the young collector who is just starting the Newfoundland stamps are not only inexpensive in accordance to their value—but are also handsome and make a good showing for the money invested. The Newfoundland stamps as a speculation offers also a fair proposition. Some of them in the uncanceled state have brought big prices over catalogue and some have gained 50c, in value since 1903, namely the 3c vermilion of the 1867 issue.

"The Postage stamps of the Philippines, including a list of telegraph and Revenue stamps issued under Spanish dominion, by J Murray Bartels, F. Apthorpe Foster and Captain F. L. Palmer, U S A, members of the Boston Philatelic society."

The above is the title of a very valuable work mentioned in the "WEST" before and published in Boston by the J. M. Bartels Co. It has been printed in 350 copies, 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 10 $\frac{3}{4}$, 107 pages under the following headings: Introduction, Geography and Postal History, List of authorities, List of Postage Stamps of the Revolutionary Government, 1898-99, Plate Numbers. Counterfeits, Postage Stamps of Doubtful Status, Envelopes and Wrappers, Postal Cards, Cancellations, Telegraph Stamps, Revenue Stamps. It seems nothing has been left undone to make the work as complete and exact as possible, the compilers having pressed into service whomsoever they found able to contribute something. If any source of information has been neglected, it was because that source was undiscovered or inaccessible to the authors. Further research is not very likely to bring forth much that is not contained in the present work, though there are many indications that much more might be learned, if only better records had been made and preserved. For instance, the many color variations in the postal issue of 1854 indicate that there were probably 3 to 6 different printings of these stamps, but no record of them is found because it seems none was ever made. The compilers have refrained from making conclusions, unless they had very good grounds for them. Consequently the contents of their book, though learning many questions unanswered consist of well established facts only. Much then as we may re-

gret the partial incompleteness of the present work, we may be thankful for what it contains. It is worthy of a place beside Mr. Luff's work on U. S. stamps and will, no doubt, do much to make more popular the collection of Philippine stamps. The inclusion of revenue and telegraph stamps is especially commendable since a number of them are already afloat among collectors in our country, and information about them was much needed. It is now to be hoped that a similar work may soon follow, treating the stamps of Cuba, Porto Rico, Guam and Hawaii in a similar manner. Mexico and our South American neighbors might also have like works on their stamps. Then the Western Hemisphere, if these works were only produced on our side of the ocean, might well be proud of its philatelic literature. Heretofore the Eastern Hemisphere was ahead of us; but if the spirit of Mr. Bartels and his friends prevails we shall no longer need to look across the Atlantic for stamp information, except to exchange like for like. The demand for Mr. Bartel's book ought to be such as to cause him to make a new and larger edition than the first.

Louisiana Gold Quarters And Halves.

The interest found for small gold pieces has prompted the Louisiana Purchase Exposition's Souvenir Coin Dept. to have privately issued gold pieces comparable with the California gold quarters and halves, as companions for the Louisiana Souvenir Gold dollar. They are made from gold mined in the Louisiana Territory and in design are typical of the territory and its centennial celebration. The obverse bears a fleur-de-lis with L. P. E. on the extended points, surrounding are 14 stars representing the fourteen Louisiana States and the date 1904. The reverse is inscribed with the fractions $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ surrounded by Louisiana-Gold.

In connection with the Louisiana Souvenir Gold dollar, these diminutive gold pieces are sold at face, the set of three pieces commanding \$3.75. With out the Louisiana Dollar they are sold at double face 50c and \$1 respectively.



Australian Commonwealth Uniform Stamps

Designs to be Invited.

The bookkeeping provisions of the constitution preclude the issue of stamps which could be used in any part of the Commonwealth. For the present each state has to be credited with the stamps sold in it. But the Postmaster-General considers that federal stamps can be issued notwithstanding this condition. He points out that new denominations of stamps on a uniform basis can be printed without their interchangeable between the states. What is more, he intends to give effect to his ideas by calling for a uniform design for a set of federal stamps. The denominations will be struck off in different colours, and the name of the state in which they will have currency will be printed in bold letters upon them.

"We will offer a good solid premium," Mr. Mahon said yesterday, "and we will invite designs from the whole world. We will be true freetraders.

"My ambition is to get an interchangeable postage stamp which can be used in every state. Perhaps that is impossible at present, but I am going to make inquiries to see whether we cannot make some arrangement by which the same set of stamps can be issued, say, in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. We could perhaps fix up an adjustment scheme similar to that employed in connection with the interstate Customs transfers. At any rate it is worth trying."

The British Postal department permits persons using illustrated postcards to write on the address side of them. This is forbidden in the Commonwealth, and consequently oversea postcards which bear messages on their face are surcharged as letters. It has

been suggested to the Postmaster-General that he should agree to admit these cards to Australia without imposing penalties, but, on the advice of the central officials, Mr. Mahon has decided to adhere to the international regulations, and to continue to collect surcharges.

Manilla, P. I., Aug. 16, 1904.

N. C. Comfort,

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant I beg to inform you that the use of postage due stamps as evidence of payments of postage due has been discontinued.

So far as now known the use of this kind of stamps will not again be resumed in the Philippine Islands. Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of the order in question on the subject.

The unused postage due stamps will very naturally be destroyed when the proper time comes.

C. M. Cotterman,
Director of Posts.

General Order No. 18.

Immediately upon receipt of this order postmasters will return by registered mail to the Director of Posts all unused post-due stamps on hand in their respective offices and the use of postage-due stamps for the payment of short postage on mail matter will be discontinued.

All the rules relative to the collection of unpaid and short paid postage will be in force as heretofore except that ordinary postage stamps will be used as evidence of the payment of such postage instead of the postage due stamps heretofore used for that purpose.

Ordinary Philippine postage stamps of the proper amount will be attached to the article when payment is made but cancelled with the impression of the postmarking stamp to show date of cancellation, and not by cancelling stamp or dauber as is done in case of stamps attached to matter when first mailed.

Hereafter postmasters will accept unused Philippine postage stamps as well as money from the public for the payment of postage due.

C. M. Cotterman.

3 *Our Illustrations.* 3

JEROME TAYLOR

was born in Plymouth, Vermont, Aug. 11, 1840, began collecting old coins, 1867, collected, for fourteen years, then sold out entirely. For the past few years has made stamps his hobby, United States being his favorite. See his ad in this issue.

TODD FAGAN

was born, in Topeka, Kan, Nov. 15, 1882 started stamp and coin collecting when 12 years old has sold out several times. Just sold his stamp business to Elmer Smith of Pontiosuc, Ill.

He continues to deal in coins and curios only has some very curious things that he has never advertised but will in the near future.

MR. E. J. BALDWIN

The subject of this notice was born in the late sixties in Chelsea, a suburb of London, England. made famous by Carlyle, Ropehi, and more recently by our own countryman James McNeil Whistler. He was consecrated at St. Mark's College Chelsea and it was during his school days, that he became interested in stamp collecting and soon developed enthusiasm in the pursuit, being very energetic in exchanging within the school and in finding the dealers in the neighborhood so enlarging his knowledge. From, that time his interest continued and about 1892 he became a dealer himself, starting in company with a cousin under the firm name of Stanley Baldwin Co., and soon obtained a large clientile, specializ-

ing in Americans (U. S.) and in British Colonials. About two years ago his business was removed from Hounslow, Middlesex to Worthing in Sussex. For the last year or two he has issued list of British Colonials, etc., priced in our own currency, which is a great convenience to his many customers on this side. Will pay all readers to send for his list.

MISS VERA WESTON HANWAY

collects chiefly stamps, old books and manuscripts, Indian relics and curios—chief hobby is philately—has always collected—has very large collections revenues, etc. She has a large collection of old books, many heirlooms, collection of etchings, china, minerals, souvenir postal cards, etc.

S. D. PIERCE

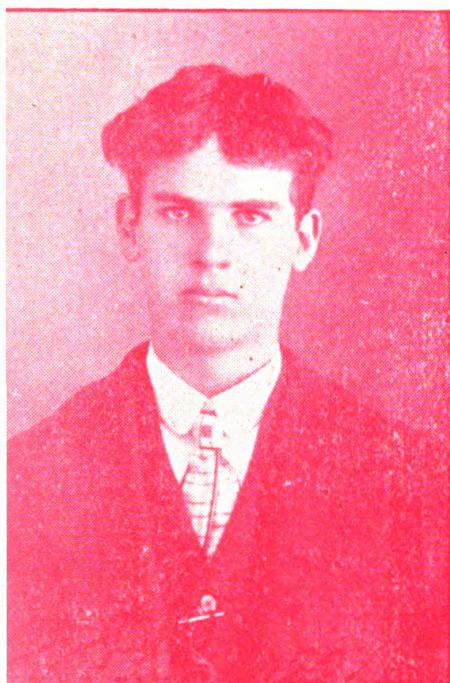
the subject of this sketch was born in St. Francis, May 13, 1885, and has lived there ever since. He always loved the sight of stamps from his childhood up but never knew there was any dealers until a friend offered him some stamps if he would get him some birds eggs. And then he began to look around and found some dealers in St. Louis., that started him out with stamps, album and hinges. He was an ardent collector, until the fall of 1903 when he put himself before the public as a dealer. He has a fine private collection and is building up rapidly, hunting and fishing in out of the way places for specimens.



TODD FAGAN, Topeka, Kansas



REV. TAYLOR, Sutton, N.H.



S. D. PIERCE, St. Francis Minn.



Stanley Baldwin
of England

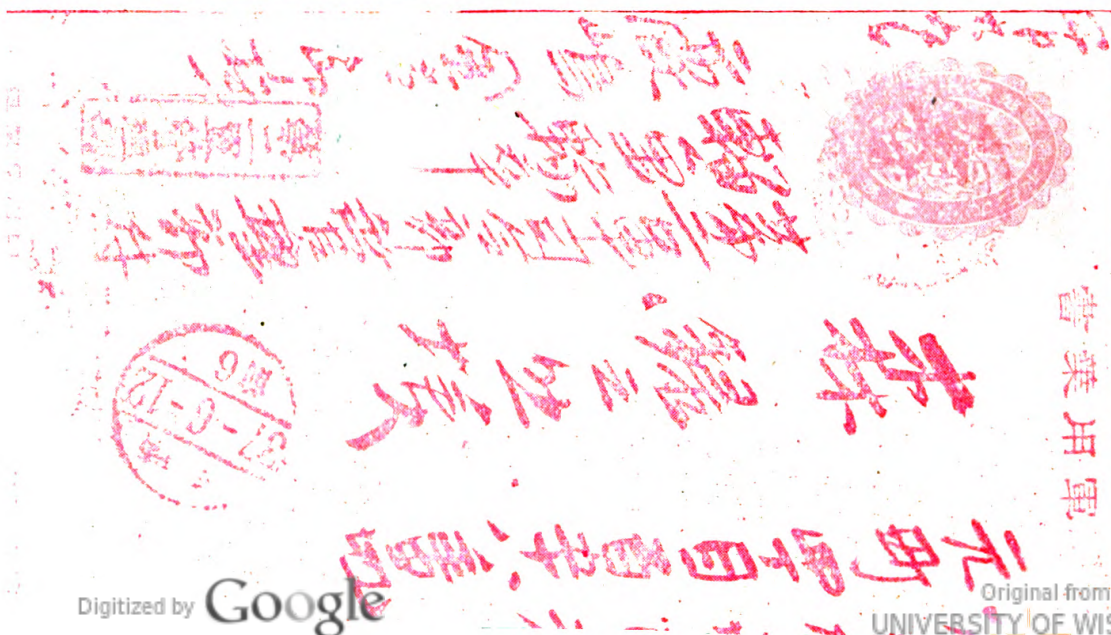


M. Burton
St. Louis

Post Card with new Japanese Stamp from
the First Great Battle



NEW DESIGN





OR A JAPANESE STAMP



HANWAY, Dallas, Pa

A Few Collectors taken by Burton at St. Louis



Original from
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



of Chicago

He has a fine approval collection subject to the best of References. Look up his ad in this issue.

He is always desirous of exchanging stamps with collectors all over the globe. That has from 3000 to 4000 varieties.

Send sheets and receive his. Is a member of S. C. P. A. of A.

The arrows shown in the photo were pulled from the dead bodies of victims of the great massacre at Rosebud Agency, S. D.

The small papoose moccasins were once worn by the Second Chief "Rain in the Face." Another interesting relic is the Buffalo Bone, with an iron arrow point sticking in it. Several years ago a party of land lookers were crossing the plains of South Dakota, and near an old trail they found the entire skeleton of a large buffalo. One of the party selected this bone and sent it to me.

W. J. England.



NEBRASKA PHILATELIC SOCIETY. 222

Nebraska's
Pride.

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy-Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc. Manager,
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245 S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262;
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg.
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

Report of Sales Dept.

In August 41 books were retired, net value 486.87.

Sold \$75.98.

Remember our department can and will sell your stamps.

H. Wendt, Dunlap, Ia.

We should have call from president but none seen yet, trust Local Society being formed at Omaha will help on the meeting.

Application.

Guy Stewart, Nickerson, Nebr.

Renewal.

Fred B. Woolston, Omaha, Nebr.
Reg. Dept. P. O.



President, W. P. Kelly, Kansas City, Mo.
Vice-Pres., F. A. Lilly, Sabetha, Ks.
Secy-Treas., F. J. Ford, 314 N Wabash Ave.,
Wichita, Kans.
Sales Supt., F. N. De LaMeter, Wichita, Kansas.
Auction Mgr., F. R. Hayworth, Wichita, Kans.
Librarian, E. G. Stephens, Kansas City, Kansas.
Counterfeit Det., Rev. R. Stollenwerk, Lincoln-
ville, Kansas.
Attorney, H. W. Broadbent, Kansas City, Kansas.
Trustees, T. C. Stephens, O. H. Phinney, F. J.
Bescher, Kansas City, Kansas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

Report of Secretary.

Fellow members:

The time for annual convention draws near. Hope those who are behind with their dues will remit at once. Some new blood has been added to the society during the past year. Hope our next year will be still more successful.

Yours very truly,

F. J. Ford, Secy-Treas., K. P. S.



President, Adolph Selige, St Louis, Mo.,
Sec'y-Treas., H. W. Lintz, Hebron, Ark., U. S. A.

REPRESENTATIVES.

L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Arthur L. Shaver, Box 324, Altoona, Pa.
Dues, for U. S. 50c per year; Foreign 75c

A WORLD WIDE SOCIETY FOR ACTIVE
POSTCARD COLLECTORS.

ORGANIZED APRIL 1904

No report received.

Souvenir Gold Dollars of Lewis & Clark Centennial Exposition have been placed on sale at Exposition headquarters, Stearns Bldg., Portland, Oregon. Price \$2 each. Can also be had at leading dealers over the U. S.

Postmarks of New York City

No. IX
B y J L Wheeler

The next figure brings us a group of postmarks which covered a period of about six years—from 1872 to 1877. In spite of several variations, this set of postmarks have a typical example, Fig 38.



Fig. 38

The diameter is uniform, 25mm. The type is uniform and Arabic. There is no dash between New and York, and there is no ornamentation. Also the positions of the month, day and year are uniform. The only variation in the circle is the distance between the words New and York. This varies from 4 to 6 mm between the bases of W and Y. The variations which make up this set lie in the cancellers. A few of these are shown in Figs 39-43.



Fig. 39



Fig. 43

This set includes the following letters and figures, 1, 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, A, E, F, S. Besides these there are several radiating and cross barred patterns as well as a few simple smooches. In all these cancellers the outline is round. In Boston postmarks there are square as well as round cancellers, but there seem to be no square ones from New York. The last date seen on any of this set is Feb. 1877.

(Continued in next issue)

Royal Coin Collectors

It may not be generally known that Petrarch (1304-1374) was a collector of ancient coins. It is said that during his sojourn in Rome, peasants would bring him old coins, and that he would decipher the names of the different emperors engraved upon them. Petrarch presented his collection to the emperor Charles IV., the first of the many kings addicted to the study of ancient coins. In the next century King Alfonso V of Aragon (1442-1458) used to carry about with him on his journeys from Spain to his kingdom of Naples and Sicily his fine collection of Greek and Roman coins, encased in an ivory cabinet and he often said that the sight of those coins acted upon him as a powerful incentive to imitate the virtues of those whose names they bore. The Emperor Maximilian I laid the foundation at Vienna of the Imperial numismatic collection still preserved there. This study had peculiar attractions for French Kings also. Francis I, Henry II, and Charles IX, owned fine collections, to which Catherine de Medicis (1533) contributed.

Henry IV used to say that he was impelled to the study of ancient coins by the following consideration, among others—viz., the necessity of providing good models for contemporary artists. Present necessities may possibly have influenced King Edward in the same direction. It is related by Pere Claude du Molinet that Louis XVI who has his splendid collection of ancient coins transferred in 1864 to his newly built palace at Versailles, used to spend his morning, after mass, in studying them and supervising their arrangement, and the Abbe de Camps was in the habit of presenting his Royal master with an ancient Greek and Roman gold coin every New Year's Day. The taste of our own King Charles I for coins and medals is well known. His collection, inherited from his brother, Henry, was deposited in the Bodleian Library, but during the troubles of the Great Rebellion part of it found its way into the cabinet of Queen Christina of Sweden. Charles graceful gift, on the very scaffold, of a gold medal to Bishop Juxom (which is now in the British Museum) is a standing record of the keen interest which he took in medallic art.—Hobbies of Eng.

St Louis Coin Dealer Robbed

William Johnson, 60, Robert Day, 42, and Percy William Foot, 30, cabman, were indicted for stealing a bag containing a number of foreign coins worth 25 pounds, the property of Frank Elmer Mills. Mr. B. A. Smith was for the prosecution. About noon on July 18, Mr. Ellis, who is an American and a dealer in foreign coins, was in a chemist's shop in Pentonville-road. He had a bag with him which contained a number of foreign coins, and he put it on a chair, when a man who was in the shop picked it up and rushed out with it. About 3 p. m. the same day the prisoners Johnson and Day went to a shop kept by a Mr. Baldwin in Duncannon street and sold him some of the coins. Mr. Baldwin recognized several of them as coins which he had himself sold that morning to Mr. Ellis; and he at once communicated with the police, and the three prisoners were arrested together in Trafalger square that evening. Each of them had in his possession some of the stolen property. Johnson and Day plead "Guilty" and Foot was convicted of receiving. A number of convictions were proved against Johnson, who was said to be a well-known race-course thief and "welsher." He was sentenced to 21 months hard labor, and Foot, who bore a good character, to 6 months' imprisonment in the second division. Sentence on Day was postponed for further inquiries.—London, The Times, Wednesday, July 27, 1904.

Souvenir Cards

By M K e i l e r

Something new in cards are "Temperance Postal Cards." A certain man in Paris printed half a million picture

postal cards illustrating the evils of drunkenness. They have such titles as "The Drunkard's Doom", "Death in the Bottle", and the 'Drunk Friend.' These might be a help to confirmed drunkards and are therefore posted to such but actions have already been started by people who have received the cards and proceeded against punishing a sender so the good work is discouraging enough it seems. Queen Wilhelmenia is the best royal photographer in Europe. A Kodak is invariably a part of her traveling outfit when making excursions through the various parts of her kingdom. She has also struck on the postcard fad and is said to show proficiency in the art of making her own cards with views of the towns she has visited.

The New York American and Sunday Journal issues a supplement of colored Pictorial Post Cards as compliment to its many readers. These cards come in blocks of four, everyone having a different view. The picture almost has the appearance of small oil painting. The views include such as "Long Island Sunset," "Native Junks" "Old Canal", "Manila" etc. The latest novelty in P. P. Cards are some woven in pure silk of the Crystle Palace near London which was erected at the time of the first International Exhibition in the world. The card gives interesting statistics respecting the buildings and its history.

The late Mr. Augustin Daly devoted not a little of his leisure, and a very considerable sum of money—his own estate was \$25,000—to the annotating, illustrating and interleaving of the Douai Bible. At the time of his death had extended to over forty volumes. It is to be disposed of by auction in New York.



BY ROY FARRELL GREENE, A S o f C C

W. Henderson, a taxidermist at Onslaw, Ia., some months ago received from a customer who wished to have the specimen mounted, the skin of an aquatic monster captured in the waters of Lake Okoboji. The piscatorial wonder was pronounced a spoonbill sturgeon by some who saw it, but those best acquainted with the subject and the nimrods who had fished all over Uncle Sam's domain, frequently encountering the spoonbill sturgeon, declared themselves unable to classify the specimen that Mr. Henderson was mounting. This fresh-water freak, according to newspaper accounts, has spoon-shaped jaws, the point of the upper one projecting several inches over the lower, and it has small, pendulous ears resembling those of a hog. The fish is five feet ten inches in length from tip to tip, and is seventeen inches through the thickest part of the body. It weighed 108 pounds and is said to be the larest fish ever taken from the inland waters of Iowa. It would certainly make addition to any collection of curios.

At Christies' famous auction rooms in London a few months ago an interesting sale took place when the plate portion of the Townsend heirlooms, in which several pieces of high historic value were included, was disposed of to curio collectors. Among these was the famous Bacon cup, a fine specimen of Elizabethan plain

silver gilt, the cup and cover together standing $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and bearing the London hall-mark of 1574. The origin of this celebrated piece of plate is indicated in the following inscription which runs around the rim of the cup:

"A Tyrde Bowle made of the Great Seale of England, and left by Syr Nycholas Bacon Knygt, Lord Keeper, as an heyrelome to his Howse of Stewkey—175."

An Elizabethan ewer and cover of silver gilt and rock crystal, the body of the ewer being of rock crystal and in all probability of Chinese origin, was also included in the sale. This piece was given by Queen Eliazbeth to John, Lord Erskine, and had been in the possession of the family since 1567.

T. D. Boyle of Omaha, Nebr., possesses one of the finest and rarest collection of "old fiddles" to be found anywhere in the West, his collection embracing nearly all the makes, excepting the Stradivarius. Mr. Boyle has now over thirty fine specimens of the violin makers' art, the gem of them all, to his notion, being a Gagliano, the date of which is very early in the 1700. Another he procured from Old Ford, East End, London, Victoria Park. It was bought by Bird, the noted collector of violins, and brought to the United States by an Iowa resident, in 1850. This violin is nearly 200 years old. Still an-

other of his specimens came from Scotland about thirty years ago where it had been kept as an heirloom through several generations. Another, a French violin, is said to be at least 135 years old, and to have been made by one of the duoted French masters in that art. Mr. Boyle also has in his collection many old mandolins and guitars.

A curiosity in the shape of a copper bullet, found in the heart of a tree, supposed to be 300 years old, near Henton Station, ten miles south of Council Bluffs, Iowa, is in possession of N. J. Miller of Council Bluffs who has a considerable collection of curios from the same locality. The tree was of the burr-oak variety and was five feet in diameter at the butt. As the bullet was found in the very heart, and no evidence of its passage through the surrounding wood could be found it is believed that the missile was imbedded in the tree when small. The bullet is spherical in shape, but has been partly cut in to. There is considerable speculation as to how and when the bullet got in the heart of that big tree, for even the high-power modern weapons are inadequate to the work of propelling a soft bullet very far through a live oak tree, and if the bullet was forced into the tree when the tree was young, which must have been nearly 300 years ago judging by the trees rings. What kind of guns did the aborigines have in those days? A party of Minneapolis archaeologists have been searching the locality where the bullet was secured for other specimens this summer, but we have not heard how their efforts were rewarded.

It is the misfortune of every cabinet officer to receive in the mails almost daily requests from autograph

collectors, according to a Washington paper, and having long ago realized, this Secretary of the Treasury Shaw has had some cards made with "treasury department" printed in blue ink in the left hand corner. He signs cards now a hundred at a time, and when the requests for autographs are received, Robert B. Armstrong, his private secretary, incloses one of these cards in an envelope with a polite note to the collector who has solicited the Secretary's signature. Some of the other members of the cabinet ignore a request, altogether.

An agitation has been on foot for some time in the Republic of Mexico, looking to the passage of law to prevent the wanton destruction of birds throughout that country, in fact, a proposed law has already been presented to the government by the "Association for the Protection of Birds," and it is confidently expected that it will meet the approval of President Diaz and the Mexican Congress. Such a law will not only be welcomed by the people in Mexico who are desirous of having their feathered friends properly safeguarded, but by bird-lovers, ornithologists and oologists in the United States as well, for many of our migratory birds winter in Mexico and laws for their protection while with us in Summer months will hardly keep them from being exterminated if they may be indiscriminately slaughtered while wintering in our neighbor Republic to the south. Here's hoping Mexico will write a bird protection law on her statutes!

The public comes to believe in the man who advertises well, and will be led by his announcements rather than seek out for itself.

Reveries Among Old Books
VERNA WESTON HANWAY

There is a something, like the impression left by the fragrance of a sweet perfume—something slight, but yet distinct in the things of “the olden time,” a charm which draws and conquers us. Old books, old china, old furniture, almost anything which belongs to the past calls up this reverence. In old books this undefined instinct is yet more distinct. There is a something so fascinating, yet withal so pathetic in these old volumes—so fascinating as the monuments of thought of another age, so pathetic for the same reason. Gone are the men who wrote them, gone too are the incidents which caused them, gone are the persons who read them, gone is everything connected with them. They seem like some stray wag from another world, these records of the thoughts of our ancestors. Let us pause for a time and let our eyes stray among the works of another age.

Here is an old French novel! As we open the pages a strange sense of mustiness pervades our senses. How queer the illustrations appear to our eyes accustomed to modern art and printing! What a tale! Yet it fascinates even while we smile. It is a change, a relaxation from our modern literature.

Here on this shelf are some old English novels. How prosaic the details! What a number of people are introduced! Yet they too possess a charm. I can well fancy my great grandmamma, perhaps, reading these with the keenest of enjoyment.

Here again are some works of poetry. What sentimental musings! Songs by some heart broken knight

to his lady fair. Odes written to the friends of our youth. Lines to the first sweetheart. Pages and pages upon “I was not false to thee.” Serenading hymns! What poet of today would compose such poetry? No, he would take life, real life mind you, and portray it in lines of brutal frankness. Perhaps this is what makes our present-day poetry less pleasing than these sentimental outpourings of the days of our grand parents. There is a charm, so delicate, so sweet, so charming, which is missing in our modern poetry. Perhaps the old pages, so stained and yellow with age, the dear old steel engravings with their own peculiar softness of finish, the old binding so shabby yet withal so quiet and dignified helps to heighten this charm. Be that as it may the charm remains a charm that refreshes the most jaded of literature collectors.

In this case rare gathered works of sound merit. Histories, encyclopedias, essays, religious works, philosophy, etc. What a store house of knowledge these old books possess. There is many a chunk of wisdom from the pen of some long forgotten writer which lets in light upon many an obscure subject.

There surrounds a collection of the literature of the past a charm and fascination which envelopes only one other hobby. Through a collection of old books we may trace the progress in science, art, literature, history, philosophy. A collection of old literature holds vast funds of knowledge which has not made its way into modern literature. In a collection of old books we gain at first hand all the knowledge of ages, for our modern literature is only a repetition in new garments, which once again proves the assertion “there’s nothing new under the sun.”

Railroad Note Currency

By CONRAD F. LIST

Being interested in old paper money in particular, and relics in general, and my failing, if failing it may be called, being pretty generally known to my friends I was therefore not surprised one evening recently when I was called on by one of my acquaintances who after the usual formalities informed me that he had some old paper notes he had brought along for me to look at. I of course was "Johnny on the spot" and eagerly grasped the package he handed me. Now I had prided myself that I was pretty well acquainted, through readings, etc., with almost all the paper money and notes known to the collecting world. but I confess I had never seen, heard, or read anything of these notes that my friend had brought to me, and therefore conclude that they must be scarce. The notes in question seem to have been used as railroad currency a quarter of a century or more ago, and from what information I have been able to secure since, I am led to believe that these and notes similar to them were used quite frequently by struggling railroad enterprises to pay wages and help pay the floating indebtedness of the concern.

The note I have seen was issued by the Philadelphia, Newton and New York Railroad Company and is about the size of the regular U. S. greenback while it also resembles them somewhat in general outline. The face value is \$1 payable to bearer and there is a really fine engraving of a surveyor, at work with his instruments, on the face, and it has the signature of the Treasurer of the railroad Company and also the contractors with the date of issuance and acceptance, i. e. Nov. 20, 1873.

After numerous inquiries I have

learned that these notes were a sort of a form of obligation and were generally issued by contractors for payment of the wages of the men employed in building the road and readily passed as currency in the section in which they were issued. These notes when excepted by the treasurer of the Company on which they were drawn were generally secured by a deposit of first mortgage bonds of the company and were convertible into the stock and bonds of the company. My first informant declared that in several instances the company upon which the notes were drawn got into financial difficulties and passed into receivers hands before the promise to pay could be converted and as such notes were therefore valueless one should with some degree of reason, conclude that these notes should not be as scarce as they appear to be.

They undoubtedly furnish an interesting study to the collector and are valuable souvenirs of the method of railroad financing a quarter of a century ago.

The house of a resident in the Adirondack Mountains is situated high up on a hillside above the roadway. The resident found it necessary to devise some means of supplying his household with water. At the foot of the hill on the other side was a fine spring. He stretched a heavy wire from a post near the house to a tree just above the spring, a trolley with a bucket runs on this wire, and the spring is diverted by a spout so as to fill the bucket. A light windlass draws it upward to the house. Here is where the mail part comes in: The mail carrier is fixed to the trolley above the bucket, and as the stagedriver waters his team at the spring he puts mail for his isolated mountaineer in the small box, blows his whistle and goes on his way.

Eastern Curio Notes

CLARENCE P. DeKAY, A S of CC 311

Joseph S. Haight, of Fishkill, N. Y., has an old-fashioned wagon that is a real curiosity. It is a three-wheeled vehicle and was built in 1776 at Eagle Bridge, Rensselaer county. It was an elegant conveyance in its day and LaFayette, during his visit to America in 1824, made it his carriage of state to ride in around the country. The leather covered top and running gear are in a good state of preservation. Mr. Haight came into possession of the wagon through an old family who had owned it for over a century.

An interesting relic has recently been added to the magnificent collection at West Point. It is a flag carried through the Civil War by the First New York Fire Zouaves and is the emblem which the gallant Colonel Ellsworth replaced on the staff of the Mansion House at Alexandria, Va., afterwards removing the Confederate flag for which he was killed by the hotel proprietor. When the Zouaves broke camp at Alexandria the regiment took the banner with them and carried it through the war.

Mr. Chamberlain, a respected resident of my own native town, is a collector of rare chime and calendar clock. One of his chime clocks, made by Roger Dunstan, Amsterdam, is worthy of description. It has a chime of fifteen bells on which six tunes are played. It also has two other striking bells, one to indicate the hour approaching, a half hour in advance if desired, and the clock can be set to "speelen" or "neit speelen" as desired. It indicates the time of the day, day of the week and monthly and lunar calendar. Its face is silver with enameled figures on it

surrounded by a very artistic painting and it is now in perfect running order. Probably \$1000 would not tempt the owner to part with this rare old clock.

What a thing is luck or providential oversight. When we think of the precious things lost in spite of the most elaborate care, and then of the Hartford Courant's discovery in the waste of its cellar, where it has lain for a score or two of years, of Gen. Grants' famous, "Let us have Peace" letter, we are prone to forgive those who conclude that the safest way is to let things go to take care of themselves or be taken care of for them. The most miraculous thing about it was the fact that the man employed to clean up the cellar was inquisitive enough to open and read the letter, intelligent enough to appreciate its value, and honest enough to turn it over to the Courant people. Think of the chances that letter ran of destruction and the extraordinary succession of providential interventions that saved it.

One of the most delightful magazines emanating weekly into the writer's sanctum is the "Scientific American and Supplement." An interesting relic, in the form of a Viking votive sun chariot discovered in a peat moor in the island of Seeland and now reposing in the museum at Copenhagen, will be fully described in a future issue of the supplement, an outline of which has been obtained by the writer. The chariot is in the form of the sun, and is of bronze picked out with gold to give expression to the sun's rays. It rests on six wheels, or rather half-wheels, and drawn by the horses of the sun. In its details, therefore, it preserves that form of the sun myth which is common to many nations

and peoples, and which finds its eastern analogue, for example, in the legend of the fiery chariot that bore the Hebrew prophet from the sight of men. Its antiquity is fixed at about 3,000 years, dating from about 1,000 B. C., and of its nature as a sacred relic there is no doubt. It had evidently formed some part in the worship of the early Scandinavian, and it had probably had some sacrificial significance. It is thirteen and a half inches long by eight and a half inches wide, and therefore could easily have rested on even a small altar.

Utah abounds in relics of a bygone people who were not akin to the modern Indians. They were an industrial folk who used irrigation to raise crops, and had domestic arts and utilities which are very curious. Utah was the home of the cliff dwellers, but the agricultural people referred to came later than they. Of the cliff dwellers there are the remains of one very interesting city. In Carbon county, in Six-mile and Nine-mile Canyons there are some very interesting carvings on the rocks, which some day may be deciphered. Is there not among the archeological society just organized, some readers of the WEST who could tell us about the developments made regarding archeological Utah in that practically unknown country?

At Washington's Headquarters, in Newburgh, and at Trophy Point at West Point are links of an iron chain that was placed across the Hudson during the Revolution to prevent the British vessels from ascending the river. The first chain, portions of which had done duty at Ticonderoga proving inadequate, orders were given to the Sterling Furnace, an old forge near Greenwood Lake still exist-

ing, to construct a chain 500 yards long, each link 45 inches in length, 12 inches in breadth, and made of bar iron $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches square. Sixty men from the army were given furloughs that they might assist in the work, which required six weeks, day and night, for completion. This mighty chain of 160 tons weight, fastened by great bolts to rocks on either side and held in position by heavy poles to keep it from swaying, represented a series of mighty efforts in its construction and adjustment, prophetic in its type of strength and unison.

MINERALOGY

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept. This month we have an article from Mr. E. Bechtold of Atchison, Ks. who has favored us before. Anyone interested who can favor us is cordially invited to do so.—Forest Gaines]

From a Kansas City paper we have an account of how the now world famous diamond mines in South Africa were discovered. The story is as follows:

In 1867, a Mr. John O'Reilly, trader and hunter was passing through a section of the British colony known as Griqualand, West. Alabama was the particular district of the territory in which Mr. O'Reilly's adventure occurred. He was on his way to Colesburg and was hospitably entertained by an influential Dutchman, ban Neikirk. During the evening, one of the Neikirk children was playing on the floor with some pebbles which had been brought from the vicinity of the Vaal River.

The attention of O'Reilly was called to one of the pebbles which threw out quite a strong light. He picked it up, examined it, and offered to buy it of his host. Van Neikirk was amused at the idea of

selling a mere pebble and told O'Reilly to take it gratis. This, the latter would not consent to, however, and they finally compromised; O'Reilly was to find out if the stone was of value and if it was, to sell it, and divide profits with Van Niekirk. In a short time the trader arrived at Colesburg. He showed the stone to several people at the bar of the hotel and told them that he believed it was a diamond. He also cut a glass tumbler with it and wrote his name on a window pane. Notwithstanding this, however, one of the loafers became angry at what he termed "foolishness", and picking up the stone threw it into the street, where O'Reilly found it, only after a long search. The stone was finally sent to Dr. Atherton of Grahams-town, who, in turn handed it over to the Roman Catholic Bishop, a man of great scientific attainments. Almost immediately, the latter pronounced it a diamond of 22½ carats.

From Grahamstown, the stone was sent to the Colonial Secretary and from the latter gentleman, it eventually found its way into the hands of Hunt and Roskill, Queen Victoria's jewellers. They gave it a valuation of 2,500, at which price it was sold. Soon afterwards O'Reilly started out diamond hunting in the neighborhood of Van Niekirk's home, after handing the latter his share of the money. In a very short time the trader came upon another diamond, which he sold for \$1000. Thus started the great South African boom.

Besides the now noted flexible sandstone of North Carolina, another flexible material has been heard of. C. H. Burgess of Cleveland, Ohio, recently sent to 'Engineering News', a photograph and description of a flexible stone occurring in that vicinity. The material is known locally as Euclid bluestone, and geologically

speaking, is an indurated Erie shale with about ninety-five per cent of silica. It is very fine in grain and may be worked rather slowly with either saw or chisel. Mr. Burgess states that a sawed slab of the stone, six and one-half feet in length, six inches wide and one fourth of an inch thick, supported on two bricks, each four inches high, showed by the scale, a deflection at the center of five and one-fourths inches. The entire weight of the slab was 13 1-10 pounds.

New discoveries similar to the above can be watched for at any time now. We have no doubt that many rather flexible rocks and schists exist and it only remains for the proper circumstances to bring them to light. And the latter is nearly always, the result of an accident of some kind.

At Durnback, on the Clyde, during the formation of a wet dock, a considerable quantity of stags, antlers, spear heads, celts, etc., have been found. Bones of the red deer, the Celtic ox, and wild boar were also discovered.

An interesting story of cup and ring marks has been made at Krik-mabreck, near Cairnbarrow. The stone bearing the markings is five sided, and the concentric circles, varying from 4½ to 21 inches in diameter, are clearly defined.

DWARF PLANTS OF JAPAN.

In a remarkable collection of Japanese dwarfed plants lately exhibited by Mrs. Ernest Hart to the Royal Botanic Society of London, each specimen was said to be more than a century old, and the tallest tree was less than 18 inches in height, although having all the characteristics in miniature of the full-grown forest giant. This curious art of tree dwarfing is one of Japan's secrets.

The Mandan Indians **E. R. STEINBRUECK**

For over two years I have been following the trail of the Mandan Indians now extinct as a distinct tribe. There are a few of this ancient tribe living yet, some captured when babes and raised amongst the Sioux, others but very few, living with their old time allies the Ricara, or commonly called the Rees., at Fort Berthold reservation. It is presumed, tho the fact is not proven that a Welsh prince in the year 1100 took a lot of pale faces of his country to the far shores of an unknown western region now called America, and that these white people mixed and intermarried with the Indians, thus forming an entirely different type of people from the general Indian. Thus are explained the blue and grey eyes, the fair hair, the beards and the finer features of this ancient tribe now extinct. Lewis and Clark found the first inhabited Mandan village near our old Fort A. Lincoln, now abandoned and disappeared, about five miles south of the present city of Mandan. This village on a sloping hill near the banks of the Missouri was called by the Mandans, "the slanting village." There are two more villages close by to the North. Some of the Mandans lived in a village at the East end of Mandan City and went for lumber and wood about a mile south till they finally built up a village there also and called it, "the lumber village."

They must have lived at these three places for several years, as the layers of burnt or charred corn cobs, indicating the harvest of each year count to about eight.

The Mandans lived in fortified stationary villages in a hostile Sioux country and only moved farther up

north, always near or on the banks of the Missouri river, when the game in the neighborhood became scarce or when the enemy was pressing too fiercely. The villages were surrounded by a trench and a stockade of which the uncultivated ground bears witness, yet even having preserved the stumps of the pallisades for seventy years and over. The Mandans lived in circular lodges built out of timber, covered with clay, measuring from 40 to 50 feet in diameter, while the medicine lodge in the center of the village at old Fort Clarke measured as much as 60 feet. Each lodge harbored several families, as many as four or five. They were a very industrious and intelligent people and elevations around their lodges contain specimens and fragments of their skill in the manufacture of bone and flint implements and of pottery of different shape and design. These elevations wrongly called mounds and often taken for graves, are nothing but heaps of refuse, thrown out by the girls every morning, cleaning the lodge and which are now mixed with the soil, either carried there by the high winds of the prairies or fallen of the old lodges gone.

From the Cannon Ball river to old Fort Clarke I have found and located eighteen such village sites on the West banks of the Missouri, while on the East side so far I have found five. The Mandans moved gradually up the river and within two miles of Fort Clarke, where the white man with his virtues and his vices brought the small pox finally to the tribe to its ruin, we find the same specimens of their implements and their simple and ingenious ornaments. At Fort Clarke's villages there appears the copper kettle and the tin mug, the glass bead and the common butcherknife, while formerly they were

skillful in making their own pots out of clay, knives, arrow and spear points, scrapers etc. out of flintchert and obsidian manifold implements beads and ornaments out of the bone of the buffalo the elk and other game.

To aid in compiling the history of our State I have devoted my time and energies to this aim and have been successful in furnishing the Historical societies of Minnesota and of North Dakota with thousand of specimens of Mandan handiwork. While I keep nothing myself offering my finds to posterity for further study I have some surplus pot shards rim pieces on hand which I am willing to sell each at 10 cents postpaid. The proceeds of these sales go to defray part of the expenses of further exploration of which I am willing to report in time also furnishing illustrations.

BY GEORGE O. GREEN.

Seeing the rock formation pictured in the August number of the WEST called Chimney rock, brings to mind a strange formation I once saw in Custer County, Montana. It was situated on a creek, flowing into Powder River on the East. On reaching the source of the creek I climbed over a high bare divide and from there I saw a butte farther east covered with pine and cedar trees. The butte was probably nearly 100 feet high and its base was covered with a rank growth of grass for that region. On the summit of this butte was a square rock rising to the height of 12 or 15 feet. The rock was about the same dimensions horizontally. In the middle of the rock was a passage way through it about 5 or 6 feet high and perhaps 4 feet wide. I think it was some variety of sand stone but would not be certain. It was in a wild country and as I was out on a hunt for vixen I did not examine it as closely as a geologist

would. It stands 4 or 5 miles from Powder River on the first creek north from Trail Creek. Mr. Mason at whose ranch I was stopping said the creek was not named. We gave it the name of Bannock Creek but what name it now bears I know not as that was 15 years ago.

A panel of Old Gobelines tapestry, representing Asia, signed "Jans, 1664," found by Lieutenant Colonel Hope Crealock, Military Secretary to the Earl of Elgin, in the Island Summer Palace of Yuen Ming, near Peking, in October, 1860, sold for 300 guineas in London.

The late Mr. William Vicary, of Plymouth, has left his well known and valuable collection of Devonshire fossils to the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, England. It consists of nearly 10,000 specimens, chiefly from the Cretaceous and Devonian formations, and from Ordovician pebbles in the new red sandstone of Devonshire. Many of the specimens have been described and figured in the writings of eminent palaeontologists and geologists of the past.

Giacomo Brogi, an Italian artist from Florence, Italy, who has the distinction of being the photographer to the court of Italy, has just installed a fine collection of pictures in the Italian section of the Palace of Liberal Arts at the Worlds Fair. The pictures are intended to show the versatility of the exhibitor in his particular line of work, which is photography and the publishing of pictures of various kinds. Several very creditable photographs of street scenes in Florence and other cities of Italy are exhibited, and several portraits, including members of the royal family of Italy.

An Old China Closet **By VIRGINIA BAKER**

Continued from last Issue.

There were cups of "Canton" china of various shapes, a tea caddy, two tall chocolate pots and several plates, also of Canton ware, but differing from one another in design. China collectors know that at the beginning of the last century, the house wives of America had a "fad" for specimens of Canton manufacture, and that numberless tea-sets were imported from the "Celestial Empire." Perhaps the most admired "pattern" was that displaying a white ground with a narrow border of dark blue studded with gilt stars, though some purchasers preferred a brown and gold effect. A favorite design for the centre of the various pieces, represented Liberty and Justice upholding a wreath, probably of laurel leaves, which wreath was surmounted by an object that might easily be supposed to be either a mouse trap or a bird cage, and upon the top of which a bird, presumably the American eagle, was perched. Below the wreath appeared two American shields. Persons of aristocratic proclivities often had their monograms blazoned upon their Canton ware, while individuals of simple tastes were satisfied with the blue and gilt or brown and gilt border and a central design showing a spray of flowers or leaves in the same colors.

Of plates the old closet possessed an interesting variety. One of old Delft was hardly younger than the porringer before mentioned and had a beautiful design of flowers which nearly covered the centre, with a border to correspond. Then there were plates commemorative of the revolt of Texas and of the discovery of gold in California. The former

was of graceful shape showing a white ground with decorations in mulberry red. The centre of the plate displayed a battle scene and probably represented San Jacinto. The border was quite ornate. Groups of banners, trumpets, swords, guns, and trumpets, alternated with a woman's figure beside which was that of a deer. It may not be amiss to state for the benefit of collectors that the "Texian Campaign" china was also manufactured in shades of blue, though the blue pattern is not as delicately pretty as is the mulberry color.

The "California" plate also shows a white background, but the central picture and border are of a blackish blue, not especially beautiful. This central design exhibits a structure which may have been intended to represent Montezuma's palace, but looks rather European, than Aztec. Before the palace is a moat, or canal, dotted with boats which bear a suspicious resemblance to gondolas, behind it tower lofty mountains, and over all, the full moon sheds its radiance. The border shows the palace alternated with bouquets of roses.

Two plates of genuine "willow-ware," and three or four more of different shades of blue representing "Pekin Sketches," "Views of Venice," etc., were prized for length of time they had been in the family. A pretty fluted pickle dish was also valued as an heir-loom. For the same reason some plain "gilt band" dishes were allowed a residence in the old closet. But the gem of the collection was a "Pilgrim" plate whose perfect beauty was undimmed by nick or crack. This treasure had a history worthy of itself. It formed part of a set used at the Bicentennial of the Landing of the Pilgrims, and

was made in England by order of John^o Blaney Bates the builder of the Plymouth County Court House in which the banquet given at the Bicentennial celebration was served. The centre of the plate shows Plymouth rock inscribed with the names Bradford, Carver, Standish, Brewster and Winslow. Two Indians standing upon it watch the landing of a boat load of Pilgrim fathers while, in the distance appears the Mayflower. At the top of this central picture is the inscription, "The Landing of the Fathers at Plymouth Dec. 22, 1620." The border shows a design of conventional leaves and eagles, and at the sides of the plate are shield shaped spaces showing the battle between the "Enterprise" and the "Boxer" and the first trip of the "Clermont." At the top of the plate in another space, are the words "America Independent July 4, 1776" and at the bottom, in a similar space "Washington, Born 1799." The back of the plate bears the stamp of Enoch Woods Sons Burselm.

One shelf of the old closet was devoted to some bits of family glassware but as these possessed no especial value I shall not pause to describe them. Neither shall I enter into details concerning some pretty specimens of modern china which filled the spaces between the older and more valuable pieces. Old and new will never again set together in neighborly fashion on the shelves of the old closet. Its doors are closed against them forever. Does it mourn its past glory? One likes to imagine that it does.

A nail driven through two pine boards holds tolerably well. Several strokes have been necessary to force it thus far, but a slight resistance will disconnect the boards and your

labor has been expended without results. Two more strokes would have clinched this nail and held firmly as long as the boards were of any service. Four months of advertising will bring you and your business before the public tolerably well. Several attempts and some worry has been necessary to gain even a degree of publicity. About the time possibly that people begin to recognize you and your business and decide that you have a good thing and that they will write you next month, you become discouraged and discontinued advertising, calling it "a waste of money." Two more issues would have settled the subject with the prospectives and by courteous treatment when they wrote would have made permanent customers of them. Don't try to drive a spike with a tack hammer. A ten pound sledge when used with force will make an impression.

DATE ON SILVER COINS.

Most people have an old silver coin of some kind which they are keeping as a relic either for sentimental reasons or because they think it worth more than its face value. In some instances the date or inscription has been worn away and it is impossible to read it even with a strong glass.

The following method, originally practiced at the mint to discover the genuine coins when silver was called in, will enable any one to read an obliterated inscription.

Make the poker red hot in the fire and then place the silver coin on it. The inscription will be plainly visible in a greenish hue, which will fade as the coin cools. —London Chronicle.

The Killing and Preserving of Insects

BY MAX F. BIER

(Continued from last number.)

Now let us take a newly killed moth and proceed to set it. Take it and hold it lightly between the tips of the left forefinger and the thumb, and keep the wings slightly pressed. Then take a pin and pass it through the exact center of the thorax. Wait a little and see if it bleeds. If it does hold a piece of the blotting paper to the wound until the moisture is all absorbed. When the bleeding stops, press the pin just so far, that the body will rest in the groove of the setting board and the wings lie on the surface.

Now arrange the legs with a needle and place the same instrument against the front of "costal" edge of the wings, and draw it forward until it is in the required position. Next place a stout pin in one end of a brace and fix the latter diagonally across the wing. This will keep it in position. Treat the hind wings in similar fashion and then put a pin through the other end of the brace. Place the pins some little distance from the wings. The opposite pair of wings should be treated in the same manner. A single pair of braces will be sufficient for butterflies and the smaller moths, but such insects as hawk-moths a second brace should be added on either side.

The time for leaving the insects in the setting board varies. About two weeks would be required for butterflies and moths with thin bodies, but two months would be none too long of those with thicker bodies. Indeed if you left them a year they would not be any the worse for it.

Now, the next question arises. It is: Where shall we keep the in-

sects after they are taken out of the setting-board? The simplest and cheapest, for the beginner are store boxes. These have no glasses, are made double, and fold on each other, by hinges like backgammon boards. They are cork-lined and papered, and when properly made of seasoned wood, fit very loosely together, but not close enough to keep out the mite. Some people use camphor to keep these little pests away. Now this answers very well as long as it is kept in the box. But if it evaporates and the mites once get in, they will stay, camphor or no camphor.

This brings us to the most important part of the subject. Poison of some kind is a necessity, and we must either poison the atmosphere or the insects. The former plan is apparently the easiest, but in the long run the latter pays the best.

The following is the best mode of poisoning specimens. Ask any qualified medical man to give you an order to procure corrosive sublimate. Ask for it in the form of powder. This is dangerous chemical and like arsenic causes a lingering and agonizing death. Still if properly handled it is perfectly harmless. Now get some spirit of wine, and dissolve the corrosive sublimate in it. Put about six grains of corrosive sublimate to one ounce of the spirits. It is best that the insects be thoroughly dried before being poisoned. Pour the solution into a dish and then taking the moth by the pin put it completely into the spirits. Leave it in a few minutes and then take it out, and hold it edgeways against the edge of the dish so as to allow the moisture to drain off. At first every color will vanish and the wings will look like brown feathers, but after the operation the

colors will become just as bright if not brighter than at first.

Stick it crosswise on a resting setting-board, and place the board on a window sill, the sash being raised a couple of inches. Place the insets so that the heads will be directed into the room. The door should also be open so that a draught may be created. This is done so that the downy hair of the body will not become matted.

Having thoroughly redried your specimens the you can now put them back in your box and not trouble yourselves about their preservation. The comfort to a collector who uses corrosive sublimate is wonderful. He needs no camphor, benzine or any other evil smelling stuff among his insects, and knows that if they are not looked at for years they are in perfect condition.

NOTES FOR THE CURIO COLLECTOR
BY ARTHUR SMITH

It is said the first paper money ever used in this country was issued in 1723 by Pennsylvania. In the early part of the year \$75,000 was issued on the credit of the colony and a few months later 150000 more followed.

What is called a petrified body of an Indian has been found on the farm of a gentleman living near Rogers, Ark., The figure is about six feet in length and is perfect in every feature and detail.

"Washington's Elm" at Morriston, N. J., has at last been cut down. Tradition says that when Washington had his headquarters there during 1779-80 that there was talk of having it cut down but the General prevailed upon the owner to

leave it standing on account of its beauty and great age. When Lafayette came to Morristown in the early part of the last century he visited the famous old tree and made a short address under its spreading branches.

In a recent number of the Scientific American there was an account of an interesting discovery of old Roman and Anglo-Saxon relics in a field at Mitcham, near London. Ten skeletons, accompanied by several spearheads and all in excellent state of preservation, were discovered. In every case the skeleton was lying on its back with its feet toward the east, and in separate graves made in the gravel. Remnants of old-fashioned armour, some spurs, and two-edged broadswords were found near the remains. Portions of a handsomely carved glass vase and other articles were found on the chest of one of the skeletons. One skeleton had a spearhead to the left of the skull and a knife and buckle at the waist. The skeletons and relics have been examined by archeologicalists and their investigations indicate that the bodies were buried about the year A. D. 400.

Archeologists are much interested in a bronze image of the sun drawn by an animal attached to a chariot, which was dug up in the fall of 1902 at Trundholm, in Zealand, and which is pronounced to be "an idol of the sunworship, dating from about 1000 B. C., and the best of its kind found anywhere, both as regards design and execution." It is added that everything seems to indicate that the object belongs to the older bronze age, and is of purely Scandivavian origin. The image is about eight inches in height.

H o b b i e s **By DR. G. S. HITCHCOCK**

Hobbies are all right. If more people had one they would be happier, as it takes their mind from the worry and care of business, it stimulates ones desire to live and accomplish something. It's more than that. It brings together objects that are scattered all over the country one here another miles away, and are of no interest alone by themselves, but when brought together, become interesting and valuable. One little round symmetrical stone attracts no attention, put fifty of them together and they become interesting. So it is with other things, whether they are of little or much value.

Thirty years ago I knew of a young man down East whose hobby in a small way was sea shells. In after years he studied medicine, married and went to California. There he found more and better shells. Someone told him if he loved shells he ought to take a trip to the Philippine Islands, then he could make a valuable one. Well, he and his wife went, they found all they wanted, came back to San Francisco, classified them, and his wife made full sized drawings of all and colored them in natural water colors. They sold the collection to the U. S. Government for \$25,000.00. They offered \$10,000.00 for drawings, but they would not sell, as they wanted something to commemorate one of the most important events of their lives.

This of course is a rare incident, but it goes to show what small beginnings lead to when they become a persistent hobby.

Men from the earliest times have made collections of such things as they took a fancy to or thought

there was money in. It is through people with hobbies that we are at this time indebted for our fine museums.

Objects of art and curiosity are picked up one at a time from all parts of the world and when brought together constitute a collection both rare and valuable.

I have visited all of the important museums of Europe. It has taken them hundreds of years to get together what they now have. To the beginner I would say go slow take anything in your line you can get keep it till you can get something better. Don't ride your hobby too fast or it will die then you will look for another. I know a man in Europe who made a collection of boots and shoes from the earliest times obtainable and from all countries. He sold it to the British Museum. I have seen it and I must say it is very interesting.

Collectors of common bugs and insects that we kill every time they come in our way, have been sold for hundreds of dollars. The trouble with most young collectors is they are not persistent enough. They say O pshaw what is the use of my trying to get any more. Then start off on some other class and in so doing never get together enough of any one class to become valuable. Then some one who has the staying qualities buys him out for little or nothing. So, it goes. Forty years ago I went up the Missouri River from St. Louis to Ft. Benton from there over the mountains to Oregon then to Salt Lake City and Denver so on home. I was gone seven months. I collected Indian things of all sorts and sold them for good prices. Such things cannot be found now. Many imitations are made.

When in Europe I collected old books and engravings and sold them in New York. I was fourteen months in Arizona in 1879 and 80. There I worked in the ruins of what is supposed to be the seven cities of Savolia. I found many burial urns filled with bones, arrow points, beads, etc., sold all in New York. I have always had a hobby but it is not always the same.

I collected 500 pieces of stone implements of this state (New York), classified them and sold them to the Cornell College at Ithaca, N. Y.

It pays to have a hobby, if, it's a good one. I not only have made money but have had a vast amount of pleasure as well.

There is one peculiar thing about collectors, and I have met hundreds, but I don't remember of knowing one who was not a jolly good fellow, and honest. They are like, the sporting men. They are all hale fellows well met. May the hobbyest never be less.

So here's to the man with a hobby, may he live long, and prosper.
The man with a hobby,
Like the man with the hoe,
Must keep the thing agoing
Although it may go slow,
The man with the hobby is one
that's always glad,
His friends are always pleased to
meet him,
And ask him, what's his latest fad.
The man without a hobby,
Like a cat without claws,
Catches onto nothing that's useful,
to the cause,
He sees no use collecting old guns,
stamps or shells from old oceans
distant shores
But prefers the bright new things
he finds in any store,
So goes the world.

I have had hobbies for forty years and am just as much inter-

ested now as I ever was. Although I have sold thousands of dollars worth I still have a large collection of unique things: old wooden drinking mugs of Irish, German, English and Danish, all carved with scenes of their respective countries. Drinking horns of the Viking age, carved wood figures of men and animals, carved horns, powder horns, Indian masks, guns, swords and pistols, etc. I am not what is known as a dealer, I collect as an amusement. I am a dentist and collecting things is my recreation and sell only what I do not want.

RARE UNITED STATES COINS.

By H. E. Buck. Dollars:

1794 to 1804 inclusive, 1836, 1838, 1839, 1848, 1851 to 1858 inclusive, 1895.—Phila Mint.

Trade Dollars: 1879 to 1883 inclusive.

Half dollars: 1794, 1795, 1796, 1797, 1801, 1802, 1815, 1836, Milled Edge, 1838 "O" Under bust, 1851, 1852, 1853 No arrows at Date, 1879 to 1890 inclusive.

Quarter dollars: 1796, 1804 to 1807 inclusive, 1815, 1823, 1824, 1827, 1841, 1848, 1853. No Arrows at Date and Columbian (Isabella). 1879 to 1890 except 1888.

Twenty cent pieces: 1876 C. C. Mint Mark. 1877 and 1878.

Dimes: 1796, 1797, 1798, 1800 to 1805 inclusive, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1822, 1828 Large Date, and 1864.

Half Dimes: 1794 to 1797 inclusive, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1805, 1846 and 1864.

Three cent pieces: Silver—1863 to 1873 inclusive. Nickel—1877 and 1878.

Two cent pieces: 1872 and 1873.

Cents: 1793 to 1814 inclusive, 1821, 1823, 1857, 1877 and Eagle Cents of 1856.

Half cents: 1739 to 1797 inclusive, 1800 to 1857 inclusive.

All the above dates command a premium, according to their condition.

On the Collecting of Birds Eggs

(Begun in last Number)

W . H . P L A N K



A box for your pocket in climbing trees is needed or lower your collecting box to the ground with a strong cord. Never descend a tree with eggs in your mouth like Tom Brown, you don't know what might happen!

On arriving home after a days tramp, the first thing to do is to blow your eggs. Take your egg drill and drill one hole in the side or end, as smooth and small as possible and with your blow pipe force out the contents. When perfectly clean rinse the inside of the shell with pure water and lay on some blotting paper or cork sawdust to drain. In blowing your eggs, particularly small ones such as sparrows and care should be taken in not holding them in the fingers too tightly or you will crush them. After blowing these smaller and more delicate eggs I found that injecting a solution of ising glass and water into the eggs. This when dry, forms a geletine like lining on the inside of the egg which makes it a great deal stronger and less liable to break.

After a good half days tramp and an hour blowing eggs you have an appetite that rich men would like to buy. After your supper you may put away in your cabinet the result of the days trip. For your cabinet a spool case from the dry goods store is very handy until you decide just how you want one made.

Suppose for example, your first set of eggs are those of a king bird and you have a set of four. Take a soft lead pencil and write on the egg over the hole you have made "444" and under neath " $\frac{1}{4}$ ". This means that the first figures are the number of the king bird in the Am. Ornithologists Union and the "1" denotes that it is the first set you have taken and the "4" tells you there were four eggs in the set.

Next you want a data blank similar to the following:

No.....	Set Mark....
Name {	Scientific.....
	Common
Date.....	
Locality.....	
Identity.....	Incubation.....
Remarks or nest	
Collector	

When your data blank is filled out it should read like this:

No. 444. Set Mark $\frac{1}{4}$. Name, Tyrannus Tyrannus—Kingbird. Date May 20. Locality, Superior, Nebr. Identity, bird seen. Incubation, fresh. Remarks. Nest 10 feet high in apple tree by roadside. Large bulky nest. Collector, L. T. Brodstone.

Every set of eggs should have a data similar to the above and in exchanging this data should be sent with the eggs. In exchanging you can add to your collection eggs from every part of the United States either in singles or in set. Your note is of all importance and should be care-

fully preserved for future notes and references.

One has but to visit a museum and a fine collection of birds' eggs in order to get the "fever" which is lasting—a fever that needs no doctor.

Largest Stamp Society in America
STAMP COLLECTOR'S
Protective Assoc'n
OF AMERICA

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandler, Roanoke Va.
Vice-President—S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Ill.
Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr

Sales Supt.—W. P. Kelley, 3222 Peery, Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

Auc. Mgr.—H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.

Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn

Trustees—Wilkinson, Estes, Hopson, Omaha

Official Organ—The WEST.

Any stamp collector of good recommendation may become a member by applying to secretary. Benefits: Mutual co-operation for the protection of honest collectors; for the furtherance of philately in general; annihilation of fraud and schemers by exposing them; collecting, investigating and assisting members in any way. Become a member and help us. With every complaint send 4c for purpose of investigation or adjusting your claim if possible to do so. A great many will pay rather than be published

Report of Attorney for Stamp Collector's Protective Association of America.

It is undoubtedly meet and proper for an officer of an association, such as the above named, to make a report, however barren of duties may be the office he fills, and hence this report.

In view of the facts, which I shall hereafter present, there is not much necessity for the office of Attorney of our Association. During the past year but three persons have submitted to the attorney of the Stamp Collector's Protective Association of America, claims for collections, the amount of same being almost inconsequential. The claims sent have in each instance received prompt attention.

The undersigned has a correspondent in each of the principal cities

and towns throughout the United States, and is a member of several large and responsible collection agencies, and maintains in connection with his regular law business, such an agency, which is well equipped and under excellent management.

The members of the association have a quick, efficient method by which to enforce claims against delinquents, but they have neglected to take advantage of the legal department of their society.

I suggest to the coming convention that a schedule of fees, allowable the attorney for his services in the collection of claims, should be affixed by it. Certainly the attorney should receive fifty per cent of the amount collected should same not exceed five dollars. This percentage should be decreased, as the amount increases. The minimum fee in any case should be not less than ten per cent.

The general duties of an attorney of association of this kind has been to collect delinquent accounts. Why shouldn't the department be strictly a legal one? Let anyone in need of legal advice upon any subject, apply to the department for information. A fee of \$1.00 should accompany each communication asking for such advice. This would be an innovation of great value to many, and would be an incentive to many to become members of the association. Many of the large cities have what might be denominated Public Service Clubs, which have a multiplicity of departments, among them being departments of law, medicine, engineering, architecture. Members of the club have the benefit of these departments, a small fee being exacted in case the desired information is of more than ordinary value. The foregoing is offered merely as a suggestion and for the good of the order,

and not for personal reasons.

As a last word the undersigned urges the members to make use of the officer, known as attorney; otherwise the office will simply die because of inanition.

Respectfully submitted

Harry S. Swensen.

Annual Report of Sales Department.

71 books received all year value \$39.14

52 books retired during year

(Sales 97.93) 294.06

19 books on hand Aug. 13, 1904 \$97.78

13 Circuits sent out during year.

Insurance \$173.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Kelley, Sales Supt.

Auction Manager's report.

During my term of office the patronage of this department has been very small. I would be gratified to have more work to do and I think results would please you. So, if you have any good duplicates of which you have no present need why not make up some nice lots and send for next sale and let this department be growing. Sorry I could not attend the convention but trust it will prove quite a success.

With best wishes for the advancement of our socitey I remain,

Fraternally,

Joel H. DuBose,

Auction Manager, S. C. P. A.

Rest of reports in next number

Southern Philatelic

Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J.
Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg Lithgow, New York.
Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Aus-

tin, Texas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

Secretary and Treasurers Report.

APPLICATIONS.

Miss Hattie R. Stratton, 321 Poplar St, Chattanooga, Tenn, teacher,
Ref. R. S. Nelson, W. P. Kelley.

New Members.

306 W. A. Imbler, Compton, Col.

Fellow members: — After a very successful convention in St. Louis we start out with good prospects for 1905. Send now for application blank and join now. We have a good sales Dept and members should join to use this department if for no other reason. The election of officers at the convention resulted as follows:

For President, Chas Roemer, 29, SanAntonio, Texas.

For Vice president, F. G. Fuessel, 29, St. Louis, Mo.

For Secrteary-Treasurer, W. P. Kelley, 29, Kansas City, Mo.

For Sales Superintendent, C. Waring, 29, Knoxville, Tenn.

For International Secretary: H. Fenton, 28, Cincinatti, Ohio.

For Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, 29, Waynesville, N. C.

For Counterfeit Detector: F. Noyes, 29, Alice, Texas.

For purchasing Agent: H. S. Vanderbreg, 29, Lithgow, N. Y.

For Attorney: F. D. Goodhue, 29, Cincinnati, Ohio.

For Trustees: H. G. Askew H. A. Herzog, 29, Austin, Texas.

Respectfully,

3222 Peery Ave., W. P. Kelley,

Secy-Treas.

Report of Secy-Treas.

Balance last Report Aug 17, 1903 8.31

Received since, dues and initiation fees 9.28

Total 17.59

Expenses.

Official organ 4.52

Printing Ballots	.75	Annual Report of Sales Supt., S. P. A.
Postage and stationery, etc	4.15 9.42	In hand August 4, 1903, 23 books
		value \$436.77
	\$8.17	Received since 50 books value 579.27

Balance Aug. 14, 1904		
Number members in good standing		\$1016.04
Aug., 13, '04, 40.	Retired 73 books value	\$1016.04.
Number members added during	Insurance fund Aug. 4.	\$93.10
year, 15.	1 per cent on \$579	5.79
Dropped for nonpayment of dues	less by Hancock	21.08

34.

Respectfully submitted,
W. P. Kelley,
Secy-Treas.

President's message.

To the Members of the Southern
Philatelic Association:

Fellow Members: It is with great
pleasure that I address you in my
new capacity as President and I de-
sire to return my thanks to those
whose votes so kindly elected me.

At the same time I beg to assure
you that I shall do all in my power
to fulfill the duties devolving upon
me and I most earnestly desire the
heartly co-operation of each and every
member.

Yours for the S. P. A.

Charles Roemer,
President.

President, Officers and Members of
Southern Philatelic Ass'n.

During my term as Librarian of
the Association I have received from
R. S. Nelson of Birmingham, Ala., 4
bundles of journals, etc., as a nucleus
for library.

I will be glad to acknowledge any
journals, books or monographs from
others and keep them in good shape
and index them for future use. H.
B. Moorle of this place an exmember
and enthusiastic collector died some-
time since.

Very respectfully,
R. L. Allen,
Librarian.

To W. P. Kelley, Secy. S. P. A.

Balance July 30, 04. \$77.81

I have to report No. 291 M. H.
Hancock of Chicago who is indebt-
ed to sales Dept. \$21.08 I send
you letters, etc., in regard to same
and empty books showing his signa-
ture. The word PAID stamped on
spaces means that the superinten-
dent has settled with the owner of
the book.

Value of stamps circulated in 7 years
\$12269.13

Sales from same \$3292.71

Respectfully,
Chas. Waring.

PASSING OF HISTORIC ENGLISH OAKS.

Our historic oaks are, with every
great storm, diminishing in number.
Dumorey's Oak, in Dorsetshire, 2,000
years old, disappeared from this cause
in 1703. Wallace's Oak, at Ellerslie,
was 700 years old when it was blown
down some fifty years ago. We have
still, however, the Cowthorpe Oak
near Wetherby, in Yorkshire, esti-
mated to be over 1,600 years old; and
William the Conqueror's Oak, in
Windsor Great Park, has attained the
ripe age of 1,200 years. Perhaps the
finest oaks of great antiquity in the
land are to be found in the dukeries.
About half a mile from Welbeck Ab-
bey is Grenedale Oak, credited with
15,00 summers, and now a mere ruin
sustained by props. Through its
hollow interior a coach and four has
been driven.—London Daily Chronicle.

THE METROPOLITAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

President—H. D. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
 Vice-President—J. A. Solomon, East Greenwich R. I.
 Sec'y-Treasurer—F. A. Mueller, Peake, Nebr.
 Sales Sup't—L. V. Cass, Frederick, Md.
 Exchange Supt—G. W. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
 Attorney—J. S. Robertson, St. Thomas, Ont.
 Counterfeit Detector—Rev. R. Von Pirch, Berlin, Ont.
 Librarian—Joel H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.
 Trustees—A. D. Blair, Elmira, N. Y.; J. A. D. Park, Buffalo, N. Y.; R. F. Baldwin, Chicago, Ill.;
 H. A. Chapman, Rocky Hill, Conn.

REPRESENTATIVES

Canada—Fred Cruse, Walkerville, Ont.
 Great Britain—W. W. Webster, 11 Leonard St, Derby.
 Netherlands—J. C. Auf der Heide, Amstelveelde 17, Amsterdam.
 Costa Rica—O. P. Nunes, Box 15, Port Limon
 New Zealand—Robert Brown, Denniston
 Guatemala—A. L. Godoy, Guatemala City.
 Australia—H. W. Shelton, Castlemaine, Victoria

Fellow Members:

I herewith hand you my report. We can this time report a flood of new members and first class ones at that. I doubt very much if our record can be equalled by any other society and this speaks much for the worth of our society. I would be pleased to hear from all members and hope they will take active interest in the doings of the society. Get others to join and you will do good missionary work as we aid all our members. In the hurry and confusion of changing our official organs the report is somewhat mixed but next month a full and clear report will be made. The offers of the Exposition Contest (except A) will be held open to all members until January the first. Hereafter the society will hold monthly drawings and ere this issue reaches you the results of the first one will be known to many. Winners of the prizes will be announced in next issue. For each member you secure you will be given one number in the drawings and the first three drawn out each month will get the prizes. Trust that you will enter in to the spirit of the affair and help us keep our treasury in fine shape. Prizes will be bettered as the foundation and finances of the society grow. This, month the prizes are: first, Stanley Gibbon's complete 1904 catalogue; second, a year's subscription to Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News. third, due bill of 25c good for a purchase of this amount with any dealer or member of this society. Next

month the prizes will be bettered and trust to see you take an active interest. All members are eligible. Matter and blanks gladly furnished by any officer.

I am sorry to state that on account of Mr. Munger's poor health the old official organ, "The Metropolis," has been sold out to Mr. Brodstone and this society will use the WEST up to time of elections (December 15th) when a formal vote will decide what paper shall act for us hereafter.

Thanking you all for the kind interest you have taken in the society and trusting we may continue our relations to our mutual benefit, I hand you my report, remaining

Yours Fraternally

F. A. Mueller, Secy-Treas.

List of New Members.

H. P. Wickham, 1135 20th St, Des Moines, Ia proposed by Cruse. H. Wendt, Dunlap, Ia; Cass. J. T. Hamel, Roberval, Quebec, Canada; Cruse. Jacob Wiegel, box 2093, North Pasadena, Cal; Cass. Henry H. Huff, Byron, Ill; Solomon. H. C. Meyers, 1234 Somerset St, Philadelphia, Pa; Cruse. Ed S. Estoppey, 8 Jumelles, Lausanne, Switzerland; Munger. George Raymond, rue des Amandiers, Cognac, France; Munger. S. V. Saxby, box 22, Rockford, Ill; Mueller. J. H. McConnell box 1283, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Muellre. Joseph Buck, 439 W. Clinton St, Elmira, N. Y; Oakden. R. B. Morang, 2549 N. Sartain, St, Philadelphia, Pa; Solomon. Fred Reis, 511 Eastern St. Alton, Ill; Solomon.

Dell C. Thorn, Clyde, N Y; Solomon. Everett Lundberg, East Greenwich, R. I.; Solomon. Gustav H. Becker, Elkgrave Ave, Chicago, Ill; Mills. Harry C. Stieners, Merril, Wis; Nugent. Edward Elridge, Merrill, Wis; Nugent. Alton L Dean, 60 Harrison Ave, Taunton, Mass; Nugent. Wm. N. Stiefvater, 1413 Colter Ave, Merril, Wis.; Nugent. Clarence Hawks, Hartsdale, N. Y.; Solomon. E. M. Aldrich, Richmond, Ill; Solomon. E. Spinony, Great Falls, Mont; Solomon. Basil Perry, Coolspring, Del; Solomon. L. Cransall, Ithaca, N. Y.; Munger. Wellinton Brezee, 186 Morton St, Albany, N. Y.; Munger. Joseph Saymon, 1009 E. 168th St, New York City, Munger. Aldrich Stevens, Pottersbrook, Pa. Oakden. Rudolph Janeke, St. Joseph, Mo.; Oakden. Frank B. Kirby., 227 Arnold St, New Bedford, Mass; G. W. Munger. Z. R. Forbes, Brookline, Mass.; Solomon. Otto F. Harrington, "La Christina", Linae Viejo, Costa Rica; Solomon. John F. Kean, Anthony, R. I; Solomon. F. M. Browning, East Greenwich, R. I; Solomon. Richard J. Wellman, 164 Roxbury St, Keene, N. H.; Munger. LeRoy Hetherington, box 40, Kana-kee, Ill; Munger. R. Williams, West Roxbury, Mass; Munger. D. T. Eaton, Muscatine, Ia; Munger. Augen Perkins, Burlington, Wis; Cass.

Resigned.

No. 26. C V.. Phildius, (demanded).
No. 80. Paul H. Converse.

Dropped.

The following may be reinstated by paying dues for which they are in arrears.

No. 5. G. A. Heremans No 9. A. L. Talbot 10. H. L. Strenberg 13. Emil Schrogenhiem 15. Fred Vogt 18. Sara Seely 22. Alma Appleton 31. L. C. Allen.

Change of Address.

No. 33. Julian A. D. Park, 510 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, N. Y. Harry Adams, Ross, Westland, New Zealand. John Carley, Ross, Westland, New Zealand.

Treasurers Report.

From April 20th to August 26th.

Receipts.

Dues and Sales dept.	\$17.43
Advanced	1.10
Balanced from April 20th	4.35.
	<hr/>
	\$22.88

Disbursements.

April Organ	\$1.50
June Organ	1.50
Ad in "Metropolis"	2.00
1000 circulars	1.50
Simarpi acct and fee	.85
1000 rule books	4.00
Secretary's postage	1.03
	<hr/>
	12.38
Balance on hand	10.50
	<hr/>
	\$22.88

President's Letter.

Fellow Members:

It will be a sorry surprise to many that our old official organ "The Metropolis" has been sold out on account of my poor health and inability to give proper time to the work. All claims, subs and ads were turned over to Mr. Brodstone as he made me a most liberal offer. This adds a big list of new subscribers to his paper and our own society takes 200 copies per month. Mr. Brodstone has faithfully promised to do his best to see that members get their copies and if you fail to do so, he wants you to kick and then kick again. He says that his aim is to please his readers and if he is sincere in this statement, then we can ask for no more or better intentions. You must kick every time you are displeased or your copy goes astray as

only by having our faults told us can we remedy the evil. At the time of our election on December 15th, the question of what organ we shall have will come up and every member can vote for whatever he desires. I hope Mr. Brodstone will be able to please us and he has a most correct and late mailing list of our members we believe that he shall be able to do so. If you change your address or find it is incorrect on your wrapper, notify both Mr. Brodstone and me and we shall see that it is corrected. I wish to thank those persons who have so well aided us in the former paper of the society and trust that the friendly relations then established may become permanent.

Mr. Mueller's report for this month is very encouraging and trust this may continue even so. Next month full and better reports will be published and in the meanwhile I hope that all those responsible collectors who are not included in our membership will join as the cost is very low and benefits too numerous to name here. Full information gladly given by any officer. Time for elections is coming and nominations are already in place. Librarian has a report which was crowded out this month but will be in next issue. If you have any philatelic books, papers, etc., he will be very glad to receive same for the nucleus of our library. Thanking you for your kindness and hoping that you will overlook this incomplete report which has been caused by my absence, I am

Very sincerely yours,
H. D. Munger, President.

NOTES BY THE WAYSIDE.

We shall increase this to a page per month hereafter and in these notes endeavor to more personally acquaint the members with other

members. These notes will be the "Personals" of the society. Add to this part by telling us all the latest notes.

When Solomon was at the Lake Keuka meet, he did not even have to visit Brother Ray and his wine cellar to get full. It seems the Sales department kept him supplied.

The Exchange superintendent set up a big howl along the Lake when so few participated in his department. Members! It is a good thing and since you have paid to reap its benefits why don't you use it. Write the "Man Behind the Exch. Sheets."

The way in which President Munger danced at that swell function along the lake shocked Solomon so that he and his "gal" walked home instead of using the hand trolley. Wonder if "Johnnie" can spoon?

Park of Buffalo recently dropped off in Corning to talk over his troubles with the "Honorable."

The Executive Committee reports that there is trouble afloat for a certain Canuck member. It is said that the news will be out during the month.

If Solomon does not win all the prizes in the drawing this month, it will be a surprise as he holds about 30 chances.

A query—Where will Cass move next? This rank along with "Who will Sol land next?"

Say! It costs but 25c to join the M. P. A. up till January 1905 or 50c up to Jan. 1906. You ought to get in line.

Rife rumor has it that a secret society is in existence within the M. P. A. and that it has a very select membership. Sure we have not been asked to join. I learned through a friend that it is called the K. O. P. G. Wonder if Munger is at its head. I am told that it is an anti-Munger organization.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Welgel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1802 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month.

New Members.

H A Thies, Baltimore, Md, 1511 Edmond Ave has sheet music to X for shells fossils curios minerals. No stamps Mistake on his address last number should be Md., instead of Mass.

Applications.

Jas Boyer Grant Centre, Ia. Ben G Green, Chicago, 1533, Masonic Temple. J J Retinger, Hastings, Minn Bx 180,. Sorry not more members at St Louis. Have you paid your dues yet? Can be sent to the publisher if you wish and get postal card receipt and WEST for Secretary has changed his address.

Dear Fellow mebmbers of the A. S. of C. C.:

It is with a deep sense of regret that on this glad morning I am unable to be with you, but at Brother Brodstone's request I send my greetings. Every year that I am a member of this society my love and interest in its welfare grows stronger. It has been the greatest outside aid to my work as a collector and a student of Science that has ever come into my life. I thoroughly believe in it and talk it up everywhere I can find a good listener. Three people have taken a deep interest in the work of the socitey lately through my talking "shop". One gentleman in Wash-

ington wrote not long ago for an application blank; another gentleman, a prominent business man of Omaha, Nebr., whom I met in a big ditch while prospecting for fossils took a blank for himself and one for a cousin of his, a prominent professional man in the city in which you are gathered this morning; a postal card to a real estate agent in Missouri brought another application for a blank and am anxiously watching WEST for their names to appear as new members. There is one great difficulty have met with, and that is, when they neglect to send in their blanks at once to our worthy secretary they are apt to mislay or lose them and wondered if others had the same difficulty. One can and ought to be a help to the president by reporting interesting facts and finds, for as he is a busy man it must be a large tax upon his time and strength and integrity to give us such readable pages in WEST. I would suggest that we have as do other societies an emblematic pin, and would suggest that it be a world pendant from a four leaf clover bearing the initials A. S. C. C. Then as to the interest that is taken in the annual election of officers. Last January the largest number of votes cast for any one person was only 28, and in a society numbering over 500 members, that is certainly not representative.

I sincerely hope you will have a profitable and enjoyable meeting and at some future time I hope to meet with you face to face and give you a sisterly handclasp. Yours for the good of the A. S. C. C., F. May Tuttle, 2nd Vice President.



Camera & News



Editor, F. J. CLUTE, San Francisco

I n t e r i o r s By SOUTHWEST PHOTO

In approaching this subject some harsh critic may be moved to get off that time-worn adage that "Fools rush in where Angels fear to tread," and I will admit 'tis dangerous ground, but I think I can say with truth that I have discovered the secret, and the whole secret, and the whole secret is—Exposure.

This is a secret that can only be discovered by one who has waded waist deep through his own failures and learned by bitter experience that though the light be bright it may not affect the plate, and vice versa. When you have exposed five seconds on a seemingly bright interior and spent an hour in your "sweat box" trying to get the image that would not "be got," and have your friend who was hooted at by you for giving forty seconds, show you a beautiful negative, you may discover that the paper was a bright red and—but why go on, you have been there.

As to the plate to use that is easy, at least for me. I have tried and tried and finally discovered that the Double Coated Non-halation is about the only thing worth trying to take interiors with. Perhaps (only perhaps,) chemistry may give us a plate some day that will give soft detail in the highlights (for instance a lace curtain with bright lights shining through) and at least a glimpse into that 'dark corner', but though that

plate is yet to appear we can use the next thing to it, and that, I firmly believe is the double coated.

In lighting interior have the light come, if possible from the back and the side and shade all windows included in the view during the first part of the exposure at least. If impossible to get an exposure light except through a window which must be included, you may screen that and give an hour or so exposure, and, if carefully developed, it will give a fine negative. However, in this class of work you might give two exposures of different lengths of time. Of course flashlights can be used—if you know how.

In the development of these plates it is necessary to use a very dilute, but fresh developer. I also have a tray containing some good contrast developer. I use Tolidol Process Developer, in case of over-exposure where drastic measures have to be used to save it, but be certain you have a case of over-exposure as these plates are very apt to fool you in this regard. What is wanted is a medium thin negative full of detail, and just enough strength to give it snap. Develop for the shadows, and should the highlights become over developed or clogged, which they are very apt to be, reduce with Persulphite of ammonium, which attacks the shadows. I fix these plates in a strong Chrome Alum Fixing bath for 30 or 40 minutes and there is no fear of their fading, if they are well washed—twelve or fifteen 5 minute soaks.



American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.
Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
shipcard sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.

Ones marked x exchange souvenir
postal cards.

5128 A. Winninger, French Lick, Ind
9 x A M. Koester, Buffalo, N Y,
769 Elmwood, Ave.

5130 H K Gregg, Loomis, Wash.
1 E Scudden, Schenectady, N. Y.,
Bx. 14.

2 W P Riser, Mt Vernon, N Y,
216 S 11 Ave.

3 J T Hopper, Highland, N Y

4 H A Holmes, Greenland, N H

5 G Miller, Hannibal, Mo.

6 J Verrill, Auburn, Me.

7 J Blair, Carnige, Okla.

8 J Grason, Council Bluffs, Ia. R
F D 4.

9 H Politt, Fernea Bowdon, Che-
shire, England.

5140 E Howell, East Point, Ky.

1 J McDowell, Tonganoxie, Ks,
R R 3

2 D Bauby, Jefferson, Ia, bx 191

3 E Voss, Bloomington, Ind

4 R F Schmacher, Mt Clare, Ill

5 Mrs W Foster, Weston, Vt

6 R Buhrer, Brenham, Tex, Bx
265

7 H Jones, Pullman, Wash

8 H A Coffeen, Sheridan, Wyo

9 J B Dooly, Shanghai, China, 32
Nanking Rd

5150 O Wilson, Lincoln, Nebr, 302
Richards blk

2 P W Ross, San Diego, Cal, 2145-

4 St

3 R Wright, Kent, Ia

4 J Carter, Ogden, Ind

5 A Gunther, Waldon, Ark

6 G White, Alpend, Mich, bx 531

7 xMiss R A Pearson, Coventry,
England, 4 Trinity Terrace

8 xDorothy Sawtill, 88 High St,
Dunedin, New Zealand

9 xF Holman, St John N B Can-
ada 39 City road

5160 xVerna Hanway, Dallas, Pa Bx 156

2 xF Raditsky, Beaumont, Tex,
1428, South St

3 Carl E Welcome, Westfield,
Mass Bx 302

4 xH Schwedes, Newark, N J 327
Bergen St

5 E N Jesup, Stamford Ct

6 xS J Rennon, Veterans, Home-
Cal., Napa Co

7 xMiss H Babcock, Wortendyke,
N J

8 xDora Guenther, Columbus, Tex

9 xJ Straley, Comanche, Tex

5170 xMiss Hannon, Innishannon Co,
Cork, Ireland

1 xW A Imbler, Los Angeles,
Calf, 1095 46 St,

2 xD W Babcock, Berlin, Md

3 xMaud Clark, Northampton,
Mass, 4 Bates St

4 H Harmon, White Hart Hotel,
Oamaru, N Z

5 xC Vranz, San Rafael, Calif.

- 6 xC Vranz, San Rafael, Calif
- 7 xMiss R Davis, bx 417 Great Falls, Mont
- 8 xJ A Venable, White Bluff Tenn
- 9 xJ McQueen, Mt Vernon, N Y
- 5180 xU S Moore, Lomax, Ill
- 1 xA R Lamb, Calcutta, India, 41 McLeod
- 2 xM Van Neck, Groningen, Hol.
- 3 xR Oertel, Rose Hill Tex
- 4 F G Howard, Florence, Mass
- 5 Mrs J Bush R R 2 Grand Blanc, Mich
- 6 C Thompson, Yazoo City, Miss, 34 Monroe st

CLOUD STUDIES.

Sky negatives are of perennial interest to the photographer, and, fortunately, may be obtained at all seasons of the year. Some workers of meteorological tastes go so far as to state that sky negatives secured at one season of the year will invariably produce results when combined with landscapes made at another season, and claim to distinguish between the cloud effects obtained at different times. Beyond the general statement that such and such a combination is false, we have not found these critics attempt to verify their weather wisdom, and as in some instances the effects so condemned has been secured on the same plate, our respect for these students of sky lore has not been greatly increased. That rain clouds or wind-tossed skies should not be combined with all classes of landscape scarcely needs repetition, nor that towering masses of cumulus clouds do not harmonize with scenery enveloped in a misty haze; while light cirrus clouds do not in nature find a suitable home on the horizon, or low-lying bands of light in a grey sky match with a landscape in which every object casts

a crisp shadow. Excluding such obviously false effects—and the intelligent photographer is not likely to perpetrate them—clouds secured at one time of the year will be found useful in combination with landscapes at other seasons. Skies as strongly marked and brightly lit may be secured in winter as well as in the heat of summer, and not otherwise differing from them. These are exceptions, no doubt, and each season is richest in a certain effect; it is in winter that we most frequently meet with an effect that would harmonize with and complete a low-toned landscape, in which a tower or single shapely tree stands out dark against the light. The sky we refer to occurs when the sun is veiled in mist or moisture laden fog. While its rays are not strong enough to burst through the vapor, they illuminate it in varying degrees of strength till the sky resembles the hollow inner side of some pearl-tinted shell. Sky studies alone may lack general interest, but when reinforced by a landscape, simple yet strong in color and composition, may rival in effect far more complex arrangements.—Photography.

MOUNTING PRINTS ON CELLULOID.

Gelatine is useless for the purpose. You need a solution of gun-cotton that will not dry too fast such as Schering's celloidin, 30 gr., amyl acetate, 1 oz. Or the Vanguard acid proof varnish is a ready made preparation recommended for the purpose.

Float the prints on the varnish (or apply a liberal coat to the face of them) and coat the surface of the celluloid. Then squeeze into contact, avoiding air-bells. The prints must, of course, be dry.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha
Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

Have not received report from President yet for the last meeting. Would like to hear from any members their ideas of what they don't like or wish to see in this department.

New Members.

715 E Bender, Albion; 716 L B Wakefield; 717 F Karlson, Mead; 718 G Brukert, Bruning; 719 T Starr, Omaha, 24 03 18 St; 720 H Smith, Juiate Bx 14; 721 J Williams, Ainsworth; 722 Taylor, Bruning; 722 G Blakesee, Eddyville

Applications.

725 Roy Teel, Red Cloud 726 O Wilson, Lincoln 302 Richards Blk 727 Guy Stewart, Nickerson 728 I Rickel Juniata Bx 2 729 Ros Carson, the Davidage, Omaha.

COMPOSING A PICTURE

Parallel lines are always objectionable in a picture or photograph. If the horizon is bounded by a straight line the middle distance or foreground should be undulating. A front elevation of an object seen in perspective.


However objectionable straight lines may appear when many of them run parallel with one another, a few straight lines are valuable in a landscape, giving variety, by opposing the curves, and stability to the picture.

If a picture be divided down the middle one half should never be a

facsimile of the other. For instance, if a photograph were taken of the nave of a cathedral or church from the centre of the aisle such an effect would be produced; the repetition of the receding arches and columns of the nave, triforium and clerestory produces grandeur, but the exact repetition of the same on the opposite side would render the picture flat and monotonous.

A street view should never be taken from the centre. The position of the horizon is often a matter of serious consideration; it should certainly never be equidistant from the top and bottom of the picture. In photographs it will generally be noticed that the lesser space is given to the sky. The photographer is always anxious to get so much into his picture—a great mistake; a good sky with natural clouds sets off a photograph. The principal subject should occupy the middle third of the plate, as a rule, although, of course, there are exceptions.

It must also be remembered that in photography it is impossible to get all things in focus. We hold that the foreground and middle distances constitute the picture, and should therefore be as prominent as the definition of the lens will permit. The eye sees first those things that are close at hand; the distance is only seen sharp at the sacrifice of that which is near. This, should always be remembered when composing a picture.



Answers

Queries should be addressed to Fayette J. Clute
16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco, California.

M. B. H. Reversed Negatives:—I would try the method of making reversed negatives that was introduced a dozen or more years ago by Mr Thomas Bolas. It should be more used than it is by those who require them for mechanical and other processes. The process is simplicity itself, and has the advantage of economy, in as much as any old, stale, and light-struck plates may be utilized for the work. All that is necessary is to immerse the plates in a weak solution of bichromate of potash, dry, and expose under the negative to be reproduced, until a strong image can be seen at the back. The plate is then well washed to get rid of the bichromate and exposed to light. It is then developed with the ordinary developer. Although the method is so simple the results are all that can be desired; yet the process seems to be overlooked.

C. R. F. Halation:—A backed plate sometimes goes a long way to overcome halation, but quick development is at least as important. Prolonged development will bring out halation even when the best backing has been used.

W. H. O. Improving the shadows:—Prints on bromide and the now so popular gas light paper obtain more brilliant depths if rubbed over with corat. This is prepared as follows:

Oil of turpentine	50 c. cm.
Oil of lavender	50 c. cm.
White wax	100 gr.

This is put into a wide mouthed bottle, and is left standing for twenty-hours. It is then heated in the water-bath until the wax is dissolved, stirred well and corked. Rub with a piece of flannel.

C. B. McK. Oranium Intensification:—My experience leads me to recommend this for strong contrasts from thin negatives. The resulting color of the negative is a rich ruby brown. It is a mistake to place the dried negative in water before intensifying, as it causes unevenness. Place the dried negative straight into the intensifier. The amateur who wants soft effects had better leave this process alone. Smaller seem to intensify more evenly by this method than large plates.

A. A. C. Reducing Prints:—Several methods have been suggested for reducing overprinted proofs. Most of them, although reducing the depth of the print, at the same time spoil its color. The most successful way I have tried is to immerse the fixed and washed prints in a weak solution of ferridcyanide of potassium and hypo, and thoroughly well washing afterwards. The action of this bath must be stopped before the reduction is sufficient, as they go on reducing after removal from the bath; and this is where the difficulty comes in. Only actual experiment will show how far the reducing action is to be contained, but having just hit on the right effect, the color of the print will remain much as at first, and after a most thorough washing and soaking no further change need be anticipated.

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge;
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps.

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist.

The Photo Bulletin, Metropolis, and Curio Monthly

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 18000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Stamp Collectors Association,

New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Union Souvenir Card Society, etc.

Vol. 28

OCTOBER 30, 1904

No 2.

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 2825 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Wauwatosa, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOCARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Juneau, Wis. R R 2

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

Woman Collectors Dept.—Miss Verna Weston Hanway, Dallas, Pa. Bx 156

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 36 prominent societies. THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER. The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

Metropolis, one of New York's Leading Collectors Papers, is Combined in this Issue. IT WILL REACH READERS NO OTHER MAGAZINE HAS. The WEST is Best of all the Rest. It will pay Advertisers to try it.

Many publishers are in the habit of announcing our "next number will be a hummer. Be sure to get it." But their present and past is what the collector gauges his opinion by. For over a year the WEST has given over 100 solid pages of stamp matter each month. It costs no more to subscribe to the WEST than to smaller, inferior publications. Like an advertiser we assert, "competition absolutely impossible." We have no rivals.

We have been "tooting our own horn" lately. After reading the frequent bombastic editorials of contemporaries, it appeared that we were altogether too modest. But, after all, we do not feel called upon to say very much—the WEST speaks for itself.

The publisher of the WEST has no other business—he devotes his entire time to this paper. 99 per cent of the monthlies are spare time work or we are adjuncts to a stamp business.

I never realized how the WEST had grown until the other day. I mailed two copies—the July and August numbers to a friend, and thought a 2c stamp enough. But the P. M. said nay and "raised me" 2c., making 4c in all. I can't think of any other collectors paper published that is heavy enough to require 2c and not only quantity—but quality is there too.

The "educational influence of philately" a favorite topic. We recently attended a meeting of a local stamp club, and an observation made there is but another argument to add to the long list. A young enthusiast, who could not have been over twelve years of age was stating "his case" to the members. As near as can be remembered the following is a verbatim draft of his conversation: "I have a copy of the P. E. Isld 2 pence brown, of course this color is not catalogued, anyway, the stamp itself shows that it is a fake. The engraving is so poor, the five lines of the ground work being so coarse, and the printing so poorly executed, that it would fool no one." This from a youth of twelve years! Not an isolated case by any means.

Philatelia is a temptress. Many collectors cannot resist collecting beyond their means. Emulation and pride are strong factors. This fact more frequently obtains in the case of a specialist. His chosen country ultima thule. He wishes to attain completeness, cost what it may. Perchance he will deprive himself of many luxuries to procure funds to secure some coveted specimens. Luxuries thus dispensed are to the gain of the loser, if it may be so stated. He has in his collection a substantial evidence that this is true. Any deprivation he suffers is more than recompensed by the gratification of his philatelic spirit and the addition of realizable value to his collection. However, the unvatamable should not be attempted. Knowing the limitations of his expenditures for stamps, the collector should choose that field that will not exceed the limitations of his income. The part of the general collector is becoming more cerduos each year. The greatest gratification of a collector is, as a general rule, completeness and thorough familiarity. One country, complete, the history of each issue known, the peculiarities of each stamp made a study; the country selected according to ability to provide funds for the purchase of every stamp; this method affords satisfaction and is becoming universally adopted.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the
 dnes of those below, are requested to send a
 copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst
 gebeten ein Tauschexemplar .egelmassig an
 den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont pries
 l'envoyer un exemplaire en echage a l'ad
 dresse sous-donnee.

Deseames recibir esemplares de cambio de
 las publicaciones filatelicas estranjerrs a la
 adresa enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149, Manchester, Wis. U S A

Collectors of precancelled stamps
 will be interested in the following
 extract from an article in No. 8 of
 Die Post. It states that precancel-
 led stamps have been in use in Belgi-
 um for the last nine years and contin-
 ues to describe their employment:

'For the prepayment of printed
 matter and newspapers stamps of 1
 and 2 centimes are on sale at certain
 designated post offices in quantities
 of not less than 1000 and cancelled in
 advance. The cancellation contains
 the name of the office and the year.
 The stamps may be used for the pre-
 payment of printed matter during
 that year and the first month of the
 following year. The mail matter
 can be mailed only at the counter and
 in quantities of not less than 1000
 pieces; matter found in the mail
 boxes and bearing such stamps is re-
 turned to the sender or forwarded
 unpaid, the stamp being disregarded.
 On such matter returned to the send-
 er the stamps are cancelled with the
 word REBUT by the returning post
 office.

Such matter can be mailed only at
 the office where the stamps were pur-
 chased. The postmark in question

is a so called roulette or roller stamp.
 It runs on two small wheels and a
 sheet of 100 can be cancelled in a few
 seconds. The impression of the
 marker is rectangular and can thus
 be told at a glance as coming from a
 roulette marker."

Thus it appears that precancelled
 stamps are not a specially American
 institution. Many collectors have
 no doubt already noticed the cancel-
 lation referred to. I wonder wheth-
 er anybody in Belgium has thought
 of collecting these stamps?

The Illustriertes Briefmarken-Jour-
 nal in No. 618 depicts two hitherto
 unknown Columbian provisionals.
 They bear the value 5 or 10 centavos,
 respectively, in an ornamental frame
 in the center, the inscriptions are
 Repubilca de Columbia at top, Gob-
 ierno Provisional at foot, Correos at
 left, Ano de 1902 at right; the whole
 is type et, the 5c bluish violet, the
 10c red. These are supposed to have
 been issued by the insurgents when
 they held the island and city of Tu-
 maco towards the end of 1902; they
 are said to have been in circulation
 only 10 days. Nevertheless—although
 they may be rare—I doubt that there
 will be a general rush to procure
 them.

The same paper describes a postal
 curiosity from Spain as follows:

"The 15x15 centimos reply card
 (of Spain) is not to be erased from
 the catalogue; we have just received
 it with control figures. It serves as
 inland reply card and, by its stamp,
 ought to cost 30 centimos; but one
 has to pay only 15 centimos for it at
 the window, so that a reply card in
 Spain in reality costs $7\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ centi-
 mos postage. It seems as though it
 appeared undesirable to make the
 stamp read $7\frac{1}{2}$, or as though that
 was not feasible, the small labels at
 right and left being too small for

these figures, and so both halves read 15 centimos. If one divides such a reply card and uses each half as a single card, he saves $2\frac{1}{2}$ centimos on each''.

This seems a curious arrangement; the only similar one I know of at this writing is found on certain cards of the Congo Free State.

This number also illustrates the stamps issued in Portugal for franking the correspondence of the National Association for (the suppression of) Tuberculosis; it bears the monogram ANT in the center and around it the inscription Assistencia Nacional Aos Tuberculosos and Porte Franco; two kinds are known, one brown and green, one rose and yellow. Portugal seems to have a special predilection for such stamps; what with Red Cross, Civic Rifles, Geographical Congress, Tuberculosis Congress and the like franks, it seems that the mails must be loaded with free matter.

The German papers naturally are full of the great philatelic exhibition held at Berlin from August 25th to September 4th. The most extensive report so far seen is contained in No. 9 of the Vertrauliches Korrespondenz-Blatt., 16 pages of fine print give one a brief idea of the treasures shown. The exhibition was a huge success; the collections shown were magnificent, as can be seen from the fact that the whole exhibit was insured for \$700,000! The German insurance companies declined the risk; a British company took it for \$1500 premium for the few days of exhibition! 24 gold, 43 silver, 40 bronze medals and 27 diplomas were awarded. Among the special show features there were the 50 cases containing a part of the collection of Johannes Elster, Berlin; the 20 volumes with part of the collection of Martin

Schroeder, Leipzig (his collection comprises 105 volumes and the part exhibited was insured for \$75,000) the collection of George Koch, Giessen, who exhibited, among others, 1253 entire sheets of the German Empire, its Colonies and Heliogoland, not to mention 250 entire sheets of various German states; Glaswald's collection of Thurn & Taixs, Pollak's of Bavaria, Ohrt's of Oldenburg, Vicenz's of Hamburg; Duveen's British Guiana, containing a pair of the 1850 2c rose and Mauritius, containing the 1d and 2d post office; Philipp's Transvaal, insured for \$15,000; Baron Worm's Ceylon, the best collection in existence of this colony; Hansburg's India with an entire sheet of the 1854 4 annas, which is absolutely unique, and West Australia with the inverted swan 4d of 1854, Lehman's Netherlands, filling 30 cases; George's Portugal; Lux's collection of Spanish Habilitados only, valued at \$15,000; Horak's Austria-Hungary in 30 albums insured for \$20,000, the greatest there is of these countries; Mertzanoff's Greece, mounted on 400 sheets! Moser's Buenos Aires, valued at \$12,500; Crocker's Hawaii, which captures first prizes wherever shown, but it is impossible to even mention all the great collections shown. The Imperial German Postal Museum cooperated with the exhibition by admitting the visitors to private view of its incomparable treasures in essays and proofs, which are not shown to the general public. All in all the exhibition ranks with the greatest yet held anywhere.

Opinions seem to be divided as to the $\frac{1}{2}$ c of China surcharged Postage due. Lately I brought an extract from an European paper saying it was necessary and would be issued regularly. But now I find the following in No. 288 of Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste: 'It appears that the $\frac{1}{2}$ c

of the new postage due set (of China) has been printed in error, as no such rate exists. Only 3000 were issued and we are informed that it will not be printed any more'. It remains to be seen who is right.

The same paper is the very first I have seen to illustrate the Servian coronation set, issued a Belgrade September 20th in honor of King Peter.

The 5, 10, 15, 25 and 50 paras show a medallion with the profiles of Kara George, the ancestor of King Peter himself; the inscriptions and decorations are simple and tasteful. The 1, 3, and 5 dinars are of the same design, but the medallion shows an allegory on the war of Liberation in 1804. It also appears that a new printing of the 5 and 50 paras and 1 dinar has just been made at Belgrade from the plates prepared at Paris with portrait of King Alexander, but the portrait has been cut out entirely, the arms being printed in at a second operation. It is said that these are apt to become scarce.

I lately heard that the French office at Zanzibar had been closed. This fortunately is true, but the retiring postmaster has gone out in a blaze of glory. He has utilized his last few days in office to issue no less than thirteen provisionals of so complicated a nature that I would rather not tempt the good nature of my readers by trying to describe them, all the more as their necessity is even more doubtful than that of the usual run of French colonial provisionals. Of the thirteen kinds only 3200 altogether were issued; how many the postmaster took home with him by way of souvenir, deponent sayeth not.

El Coleccionista, our bright little contemporary from Bogota, says in No. 5 that the values up to 20c of the new set of Columbia are to be of

the figure type; only the 1 peso will bear the arms of Columbia and the 5 and 10 pesos will show the portrait of President Dr. Marroquin. The last item particularly excites the ire of the Columbian philatelists because it was largely Marroquin's fault that the Canal treaty miscarried and Panama seceded. The Sociedad Filatelica de Colombia therefore adopted the following resolutions in its session of July 20th:

"The Philatelic Society of Columbia views with regret the almost complete suppression of the arms of our country on its postage stamps and the appearance on certain values of the portrait of the president and suggests to the authorities president and suggests to the authorities of the department whether in future there may not appear on the national and departmental stamps other portraits which may be those of Bolivar, Sucre, Santander, Narino, Girardot and Cordoba.'

Talk about the importance of philately! Just see how we collectors dictate to the governments! But whether the Columbian P. M. G. will tamely knuckle under, that is another question.

Fiscals are surely winning their way forward. The Cuban Revista is still almost entirely taken up with the fiscals of Cuba; two numbers have already been full of them, No. 9 devotes thirteen pages to them and the end is still afar off. These articles are of great interest and value to all fiscal collectors and we may congratulate the Revista on such valuable contributions.

La Cote Reelle announces that the collection of M. Cantel Bey of Cairo has been purchased by M. Lemaire. As far as concerns the stamps of Egypt, this collection is the foremost

one of the world; it contains virtually every Egyptian stamp in entire sheets! At the Paris Philatelic Exhibition of 1900 it took the grand gold medal.

The European papers are full of proposals said to have been made by our Post Office Department to those of Great Britain and Germany for a two cent letter rate between those countries and the United States. Both are said to be quite willing. France would like to join in, but is prevented by the fact that its domestic rate is 15 centimes, 3 cents. This gives rise to much sarcastic comment in the French press directed at the unprogressive French postal authorities. *La Cote Reelee* reproduces several. The lay press at the same time indulges in the usual vagaries regarding an international stamp. A Flemish painter named J. Van Driesten has executed a design for such a stamp showing the globe surrounded by the coat-of-arms of thirty-one leading countries. If they are all to be halfway distinct, I should think such a stamp would have to be about the size of a tablecloth. It is a comical commentary on the ignorance of the general public in stamp matters that a Hungarian paper discovered the arms of Austria in the list, but not those of Hungary, whereupon there arose a howl of indignation in Hungary and the Hungarian Post Office Department was bestormed to see to it that no such stamp should be adopted. Our Hungarian friends may rest assured that there is no danger of it.

Mr. Stewart-Wilson, the celebrated specialist, has made an astounding discovery in the King's head issue of the Dutch Indies and retails it in No. 239-240 of the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde*. He writes that without a doubt the fig-

ures of value of the 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50c and 2fl. 50c have been engraved separately on the plate for each single stamp in the plate, each stamp in the sheet differs from the others in this respect. The original die was probably blank. The Dutch specialists are now all struck dumb that such an astounding fact about their own stamps should have escaped them only to be discovered by a foreigner, but the fact seems to be indisputable.

In 1886, Mr. Charles Parker, a civil engineer, who agreed to provide Guatemala, free of all charge, with 2,000,000 postage stamps of a new design, on the understanding that the whole of the old issues should be handed over to him. This plan of procedure was ingenious, but shortly afterward a Mr. N. F. Seebeck hit upon a far better one—from his own point of view. Forming a company of which he got himself elected Chairman, he entered into contracts with quite a number of the impecunious governments of South and Central America, binding himself to supply stamps for them free of charge, as many as they wanted, for postal purposes only. Each issue, he stipulated, should be good for one year only, and every succeeding issue was to be different in color and design from that preceding it. His company was, meanwhile, to retain the dies, and to be at liberty to issue as many reprints as it chose for any but postal purposes.

The "reissue" stamps of France were good for postage when they were issued, and, therefore, are not to be spoken of as reprints. They are readily distinguished from the originals in some cases, but all can be told by comparison.



DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY.

By L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis.

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

203 "Why are so many stamps printed in yellow?" The only reason that I am aware of is that in artificial light white and yellow are hard to distinguish and that consequently yellow stamps cannot be seen well except in day light. But even then yellow on white makes a poor contrast. Yellow-brown and orange contrast much better. The strongest contrasts are black, red, purple and all dark blues, browns and greens, either on white or on yellow or on any other light tints not containing the same element as the dark color printed upon it. For an instance red on yellow, or red on light green, purple on yellow, or green on light pink are strong contrasts. Such could not be obtained except by printing yellow on some dark ground, as yellow on crimson or purple, black or blue. But that is not very practical, and colored paper is not common for printing stamps on.

197. "Where may one obtain grammars of the 'Neutral' and 'Volapiik' languages and at what cost?"

205. "Why does Scott's Catalogue not give the prices of U. S. Revenues, early issues, in unused condition?" This can be answered by the Scott Co. only. The probability, however, is that so very few unused revenues are in the market, that no definite

price has been set for them. If there is a strong demand for unused stamps or if anybody with large holdings of them make special quotations, then we may expect that others will at once follow in discriminating between the used and unused. Now the price for both is practically the same.

206. "What is the origin of the words 'post' and 'mail' which apply to the carrying of letters?" *Postis* derived from the Latin *pono*, *posui*, *positum*, *ponere*, which means to set or to fix. After the model of the Persian system of fixed relay-stations for the conveyance of government messages, first instituted by Cyrus, the Romans in the time of the empire also instituted a system of roads and stations for the conveyance of government messages. The post is really the station or fixed place (*positum*). From the Romans other people borrowed the institution, and in time other than government matter was carried. The term "post" was applied to all that is connected with the message-station, so that we now have a post-master, postoffice, post-route, post-bag, post-mark, etc., and even words derived from "post", as postage, postal and the verb to post. Mail is not (as you think) the same as armor coat of mail) but means the bag in which letters are conveyed. Mail coach is the coach that conveys the bags. What the original meaning of the word is and whether or not it originally meant any kind of bag, I am not able to ascertain. It may be well to notice the origin of the word "stage" in this connection. It is as much as step, or the distance from one post to another, as French *etappe*. Stage-coach, then, means the coach that goes over the steps from one post to another."

(Continued.)

Notes From Europe *J. C. AVF DER HEIDE, S. H. D.*

As I have promised the readers of the WEST in my last letter I should tell them something about the new fiscal catalogue composed by Mr. Forbin C. Harte and published by Messrs Yvest & Teller, the well known philatelic firm of Amiens. The catalogue contains more than six hundred pages and is profusey illustrated, printed in two columns. I think there are 2400 cuts of fiscal stamps, all clearly printed. The price is only 7½ francs or about 1½ dollars. It is a marvel of cheapness and both editor and publisher deserve our thanks and hearty congratulations for composing and publishing such a brain, as this catalogue is. Of course, Mr. Forbin C. Harte has made use of the well known catalogue of Mr. Moens, that celebrated fore father of all philatelists, "Der Albeimstre" der philatelic as the Germa's call him.

The "Deritti de Secretaria" stamps of the different Italian towns and villages are omitted in this catalogue although I think they are as well fiscals, as those edited by countries or others, as the American private fiscal stamps. As already said the catalogue is a victory of fiscalism and we all hope that many editions will follow. Here and there is a little mistake color or value but in what catalogue is very best.

What to say about the prices? It is very difficult to say something about this delicate question as there is no measure whatever to base upon and we will wait to give our opinion till more edition of this catalogue have appeared. The U S. are represented by about 60 pages Spain and Colonies by 70 pages Mexico by

30 pages and Argentina by 75 pages.

In the meantime have appeared Messrs Senf's and Kohl's catalogues known all the world over. Not many changes in prices are made only by Servia Corea and some English Colonies. I spent some weeks in Switzerland and Italia and of course was hustling around for snaps in postage stamps. But sorry I could not find golden eggs. In Switzerland most stamps one sees in the shops, are of inferior quality and many counterfeits are shown as specially in the tons, frequently visited by stamps as Interlake, Lucerne, etc. Special packets of Swiss stamps put up for strangers only at ridiculous high prices are displayed. The windows of cigar stores and book shops. In Milano I did not see almost any stamps as very common stuff, although Italia is a good country for our hobby. At Como, Monsa, Goral, Bellagio, Menaggio and what may be the names of more of those pretty Italian places, situated at those famous lakes, stamps are shown in many shop windows. But it is always the same story, very common stamps, counterfeits, reprints, forged postmarks, etc. A really good or medium stamp I have not seen.

Wishing the collecting readers of my letter a good season, in which they may be able to pick up many bargains, and the dealer readers as many good-paying customers as they like, I have to close my letter.

Grill—A checker board impressed on the Continental issues of the so-called 1870 set of U. S. by unscrupulous dealers.

Cancellation—Any old thing on the face of a stamp that an erasure or cleaner will not remove.

Postmarks of New York City

By J. L. WHEELER

The end of the set described in the last number marks the beginning of a new period in postmarks. The government, in 1877, instituted a system by which the design of the postmark was to show the class in which the postoffice was ranked. All offices of the first class, including New York, were provided with a postmark of which Fig. 44 gives the



No. 44.



No. 45

general features. For convenience the history of this whole class of postmarks will be carried down to date, before considering the other postmarks which have appeared since then. (It was not until 1889, however, that any despatch marks were issued which do not fall within this class. In that year the first post marks stamped by machinery appeared. These will be taken up later under the head of machine cancellations).

The postmarks which are now to be considered have termed hand cancellations. The distinguishing feature of these is a canceller oval in outline, about 30 mm., high and 20 mm., wide, cut into vertical or horizontal bars, with an opening in the centre containing a letter or figure. These postmarks fall naturally into two classes—those whose cancellers are cut horizontally and those which are cut vertically. In this issue we will follow the history of “cross-barred” marks, leaving the

“vertical bars” until the next issue.

The first cross barred mark to appear is shown in Fig. 44. The year is not printed. There is a dash between W and Y and there are eleven cross bars. This is the only mark with other than nine cross bars, so it is easily distinguished. The figure in the canceller refers to the number of the stamper in the post-office. The only mark of this design I have found is 6, and that was used only in May 1877. In the same month the pattern shown in Fig. 45 appeared. It has nine bars and does not contain the year. In some cases there is a dash between W and Y. This was used until August 1878 and had the following characters in the cancellers, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30.

From April 1878 to May 1879 a postmark was used, which, like Fig. 44, is not according to the general plan. Its noticeable features are the year in full at the bottom of the circle, and the almost round outline of the canceller. (21 by 25mm.) Fig 46.



No. 46.



No. 47.

I have found a great many of this design with 31 and 32 in the cancellers, but no others.

(Continued)

Uncirculated coins are coins just as they come from the mint, with the lustre still on them. A coin which has been blackened or tarnished, and then repolished may not be classified uncirculated, though it shows no wear.

The Stamps of the Netherlands

By C. GRANDPIERRE

(Continued from Last No.)

I found the 5, 10, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 20 and 25 values on slightly ribbed paper which an article in your May issue wrongly calls "horizontally laid."

Senf catalogue reports the 10, 20, 25, and 50 on bluish but not the 5 cents of which I have several copies. The 10 on bluish perf. 13 to 14 is fairly common. I never saw the 20 nor 50.

Curious in my collection are one 5 cents printed on both sides and one with half of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ of 1876 printed on back, inverted.

1876 ISSUE.

Whilst the stamps of all previous issues except 1868 were printed from so-called "sunk dies" those of this issue were from dies in relief. The consequence is that whilst the re-engravings of the sunk dies produced generally a heavier printing they resulted on this issue in considerably finer prints. As a matter of fact, with the exception of the very scarce earliest prints (1876) the finest prints appear 1894.

On account of the plainer design, there are few differences to be found between the different re-engravings and it is hardly possible to classify them into different "types". The more apparent differences are to be found in the lettering generally and in the letter "C" of the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent in particular and also in a thicker inner circle line in the earlier prints.

How is it that we find so many different shapes of the letter "C" of the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent and not of the other values, I cannot explain. We have what we might call nicely and badly shaped "C", some more or less open, etc.

Perforations.

The earliest perforations were the

small holes 13 1-3, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ (rare) $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$. 1877-79 prevail $13\frac{1}{2}$ and $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13$ clean cut.

1886 appears $11\frac{1}{2}$ medium holes.

1888 appear $12\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ and $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ with medium holes.

1891 seems for a little time a defective machine to have been used, perforating $12\frac{1}{2}$ rough.

1891 we find for the first time 12 large holes, clear cut, which has been used from that time exclusively with the exception of a short re-appearance of the $12\frac{1}{2}$ rough on the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents values, by 1894.

About imperforates, see remark on previous issue.

Paper.

Before 1885 the paper is chiefly smooth wove of different thickness and hardness and of fine quality. 1886 to 1894 we have mostly wood pulp common paper. With the change of colors 1894 appears a paper of better quality, harder and somewhat transparent, some of it slightly ribbed. The $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and $2\frac{1}{2}$ are found on very transparent pelure and all values on bluish.

Shades.

Two sets of those stamps should be made the non-specialist. The colors used since 1894 being in fact complete change of colors taking place simultaneously with a change of paper. We have here not to do with an accidental change.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ cent:

The earlier prints are nearly all rose and rose-red, turning to pink by 1886, than to red of all shades. End of 1893 appears either with a new set of dies or with cleaned plates, a pale brown purple or pale purple red, which was followed 1894 by the regular issue in aniline rose or rosine.

I collected about 250 different shades in 9 distinct groups.

(Continued).

Inscriptions on Stamps *By L. G. DORPAT*

(Continued from Last No.)

Turning to Japanese envelopes, we shall have to take one of the older editions of Scott's Catalogue which list them, the edition of 1897 for instance. We find the note, Similar to 1873 Issue. The Lower Characters in Centre Read "Envelope." The following inscription, marked 1873, we recognize as that of the adhesives, reading "Yu-Bin-Kit Te," postage stamp. The next inscription marked 1874, has the same two characters above "Yu-Bin," postage, but the two lower ones read "Feng-Pi" in Chinese and "Fuji-Bukuro" in Japanese, signifying "sealed-covering" i. e. envelope.

The type of 1879, 2s, offers nothing new. It has, as the adhesives of 1876 "Tai - Nip - pon - Tei-Koku-Yu-Bin" Japanese imperial state post, above and "Ni-sen" 2 sen, in the centre.

The wrapper No. 201, has from above downward in Chinese: "Hsin-wen-tai-shih" in Japanese; "Shim-bun-obi-gami" literally "new-hearing-fasten-paper" i. e. news-paper wrapper. No. 202 has Chinese "Shu-lin-hsin-wen-shih," Japanese "Kaki-tome-shim-bun-shi (gami)," literally, "written-list-new-hearing-paper" i. e. registered-news-paper-wrapper. From this inscription it appears that a newspaper in order to make use of this wrapper would first have to be entered in to the list at the postoffice similarly as the 2d class mail-matter of the U. S. No. 203 has four characters above in a horizontal line. These read, Chinese "Erh-li-wu-maa," Japanese "Ni-vin-go-mo" 2 rin and 5 mons. (The mon is one tenth of a rin). The vertical line reads in Chinese "Ting-shih-kan-hsing-wu" in Japanese "Tei-ji-Kan-ko-busti," literally "fixed-season-en-graved-business-stuff" i. e. periodical-printed-matter, a fine illustration

by the way, of difficulties of translation.

No. 205 has the familiar characters above, but on the cross-band from right to left we find Chinese "Ting-shih-yin-shua," Japanese "Tei - ji-insatsu-buster," "periodical printed matter" and "Wu-tai-shih" or "Obigami" i. e. wrapper.

No. 251 has in Chinese "Chi-li-chii-chi-hsiang-pao-kao," in Japanese "Chiri - Kyoku - kiko (?) - hoko," literally "earth - knowledge - bureau-influence- appearance-announcing-notice" i. e. Geographical Bureau's Meteorological Bulletin. On this stamp there is no value expressed, and therefore it seems that it may be classed with vignettes or penalty notices, or Congressmen's signatures in our official mail matter.

Of No. 252 I have neither an original nor a cut.

By the kindness of Mr. Rich, Geoghegan I am enabled to give both a transliteration and a translation of the legends appearing on Japanese postal cards. The first card, 1873, is blank but for the stamp and fancy border. The stamp has "Yubin Hagaki," postal card; yu-bin is the term we learned before for post, postage or postal; hagaki is a new word signifying card. The value is at the sides, same as on the adhesives. The second issue, 1874 with additional characters below the stamp has "Yubin-Kitte," postage stamp or postal label, on the stamp and "Yubin Hagaki Inshi," postal card stamped paper, below. The small cards of 1875 on buff paper have the denomination at each side of the stamp, below, in large characters, yubin hagaki; and in the square at the bottom; "Kono Hyomen Ni Wa Shukusho Seimi Wo Kagiri Shitatame, Beshi Koto," "on this side nothing but the residence and name are to be written, on the other side the communication is to be written." (Continued)

A Collector's Experience

By F. E. Halbert

Some months ago in one of our large cities I saw a cart load of rubbish and letters about to be dumped through a trap door in the walk into a boiler room below. Stepping up I asked permission to examine a box of old letters that was among the trash. The cartman gave me a rather puzzled look and told me to go ahead.

Well now! I just dove into that box or it had the appearance of being kept for years. I had soon sorted out a small bunch and I proceeded to examine the stamps on them more carefully. The man looked at me out of the corner of his eye as if he thought I was daffy, and finally asked, "thought you wanted to read some of dose old letters?" "No," I replied, "I was just looking them over for old stamps." "Dare was a lot of old stamps on dose dat you trowed in't de hole." "Yes, but those were only rather common ones." After a short pause he remarked with considerable interest. "Well, Mister, you seem to have found something dat pleases you." By this time he had his cart empty and stood leaning against the cart-wheel. Without replying I took out a silver dollar and handed it to him. His astonishment was now plainly evident. "Say! dem old stamps aint worth all dat." "There is one that is valued at five dollars." "Well, I'll be —." Then I showed him some of the stamps and explained why they were valuable. After I had given him a handful of pretty foreign ones, and with some further information, I went to my hotel which was only a short distance away; and proceeded to give my "find" a more thorough inspection. I found them to catalogue altogether

about \$20.

A few days later as I was descending the hotel steps I sprained my ankle and was confined to my room for two days. On the afternoon of the second day I was sitting by the window with my bandaged foot elevated to the back of a chair; looking down the street I saw another load of papers and letters by the barrelsful being tumbled down into that same boiler-room. This time there was a different cartman, and my mind's eye saw many dollars worth of stamps even then being shoveled into the spacious mow of the furnace.

For an instant I forgot my sore foot; but it was only for a instant for I was reminded of it rather forcibly. I thought some heavy words just then; words not defined by Webster. Herew as I with crippled running-gear, and there only a block away were hundreds of old letters being consigned to the flames.

To divert my mind, I rang for the bell boy and asked him to lend me the most blood curdling "Nick Carter" he possessed.

A few days later the cartman of my previous acquaintance pulled up his horse and called, "Say boss, did you see anoder load of letters go down dat hole?" "Yes, but I was not able to get to it." "Well I got to it and into it. I got a good bunch dat might be wort' sumpin, so I hiked around th' square and showed 'em th' geezer wot runs de old coin store and calls for an offer fur de lot. He looked dem stamps quite a while, 'specially two on 'em, and finally says kind of careless like, 'O, I'll give you \$10 for the lot; perhaps I can get out of it at dat price.' I just put me tumbs into de arm holes of me west an' says; 'do I look like a fool? Dare is two in dat bunch dat as wort a good deal more den all

The quotation, "Cast thy bread upon the waters for thou shalt find it after many days." kept running through my mind all the rest of the afternoon. What a relief to know that that lot of old letters had been overhauled by someone whether or not I had shared in its wealth of old stamps.

A New Set of Stamps
C. GRANDPIERRE

The collector's world has just been "blessed" with a new set of stamps. I give you this good news for nothing, certain that all your readers will hastily part with a few dollars to buy it.

The Hon. Seebeck and the ingenious "inventors" of the stamps of the "Cameron" Islands, "Sedang" and of the "Black Flag" of Finland remain far back in the shadow of the light of this philatelic novelty just arrived from the near Orient.

An Oriental Mail order house of Alexandria (Egypt) having numerous (?) branch factories in every Asiatic province of the Turkish Empire explains that they have often been greatly hampered in the forwarding of their mails through the fact that "very often stamps are not to be had at the local post offices"

th' rest put togeder.' Den I begins and can only been forwarded by corrupt private messengers. These either pocket their fee in advance and do not bother much about delivery or overcharge the addressee if the fee could hardly keep from shoutin.' is to be paid on delivery.

"I suppose you did later at a different kind of shop." A little extra color came into his face as he smiled and replied "no now, mister, I'm savin' up now for a special puprpose. Dat inforation you give me was wort

To obviate to those and other difficulties, the "firm" in question decided to issue not only one but a whole set of stamps, each one representing a certain fee to be paid on delivery of a letter.

sumpin so you take dis," handing me a V. On my refusing to accept it, he dropped it on the ground and drove off. Picking up the bill I called after him, "give my respects to the girl." "It's a widder," he shouted back.

The quotation, "Cast thy bread upon the waters for thou shalt find it after many days." kept running

The designs contain the emblem of five nations, the lion couchant, eagle crescent, star pyramids and monolith. The one destined for the Kuristan is green, the color dear to the Irish and sacred to the Kurds, the red one is said to suit the local popular idea of Armenia, whilst the brown one coincides with the local taste of Mesopatamia.

through my mind all the rest of the afternoon. What a relief to know that that lot of old letters had been overhauled by someone whether or not I had shared in its wealth of old stamps.

A New Set of Stamps
C. GRANDPIERRE

The collector's world has just been "blessed" with a new set of stamps. I give you this good news for nothing, certain that all your readers will hastily part with a few dollars

In issuing those stamps, the "firm" has had also the interest of philately in view. Knowing how much collectors are pleased with surcharged stamps, some of them have also been surcharged with "1 groosh" or "1 Gishain." A certain number of varieties of surcharges is sure to follow. Copies of either denomination, surcharged or not will be supplied to collectors for 60c each this extremely low price is meant only to cover out-of-pocket expenses of the "firm" as postage stationery employee's time etc.

The Hon. Seebeck and the ingenious "inventors" of the stamps of the "Cameron" Islands, "Sedang" and of the "Black Flag" of Finland remain far back in the shadow of the light of this philatelic novelty just arrived from the near Orient.

An Oriental Mail order house of Alexandria (Egypt) having numerous (?) branch factories in every Asiatic province of the Turkish Empire explains that they have often been greatly hampered in the forwarding of their mails through the fact that "very often stamps are not to be had at the local post offices."

Keen philatelists will not fail to avail themselves of this unique opportunity to enrich their collections. They can be sure to make a good speculation as a more suitable arrangement may be adopted at any time by the Turkish officials and these stamps cease to be issued thus enormously enhancing their extrinsic (sic) value as all keen philatelic lists are well aware of. So says the circular which I would have immediately thrown into the paper basket, if I had not been anxious to announce to the readers of the WEST this fine opportunity—to part with their money.

The Numbers Employed to Indicate the Value of Postage Stamps ♪ ♪ ♪

By FRANK L. APPLGATE.
A Yainax Oregon A

I have just noticed in the WEST the article on "The 100 numbers Employed to Indicate the the Face Value of Postage stamps." While this is very interesting, yet I find the article faulty in many respects. The denominations of stamps, I find a very interesting study, and I always delight in adding to my collection some new denomination. I find 109 different expressed values on the postage stamps of the world varying from .01 to 2000 and 330 denominations in fiscals from .01 to 90,000; therefore I like fiscals the better.

One can make quite a little side line of these, and be surprised how many are cheap, but again such values as 27, 54, 18 and 108 which come only from Maldivia are among the greatest varieties.

Here is my list which was reared several years ago and which I hope may prove of interest. I give only the postage stamps here.

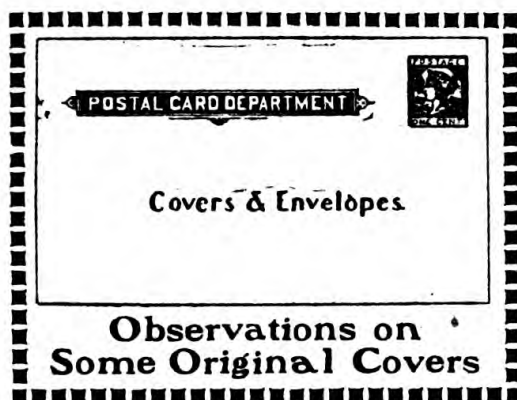
It will be readily seen that the whole numbers are inclusive to 20. In fiscals they run to 40. consecutively.

The 2 5-6, 3 1-3, 4 2-3, 5 1-3, and 10½ shillings of N. S. W. mentioned must be fiscals. If postage I am behind the times. The Author gives a \$1.12, U. S. Newspaper, too, which I am sure none of us ever saw.

Den. Country First country Coinage.
to issue and date

.01 Columbia, Gaezon '94 .01 peso blk
02. Italy 1874 Aff £.02 (£-lira)
1-30 Hanover 1851 1-30th red
.05 Italy 1874 Off £.05 lake
.0625 Philippine 1878 .0625 peso lilac

1-15 Hanover 1851 1-15 thaler, blue
1 1-10 Hanover 1851 1-10 " yellow
.20 Italy 1874 Off .20 lira lake
1/8 Philippine 1886 1/8c green
.15 French Soudan surch '95 .15 car'ne
1/4 Thurn & Taxis 1852 1/4sq.
.30 Italy 1874 Off .30 lira lake
1-3 Oldenburg 1851 1-3sq. green
1/2 Saxony 1851 1/2 gvechen, gray
3/4 Heligoland 1873 3/4 sch grn and red
1 Great Britain 1840 1d black
1 1/4 Hamburg March 1864 1 1/4 sch lilac
1 1-3 Shleswig Holstein 1865 1 1-3 gr
3-2 Gt Britain 1860 3 half penny l. r.
1.75 Italy July 1884 P P 1.75 l. brown
1.92 US Jan. 1, 1875 No. P. \$1.92 brn
2 Great Britain 1840 2d blue
2 1/4 Cuba Nov 19, '55 2 reals surch 1/4car
2 1/2 SwitzBtle '45 2 1/2 rap blue, car, 1 blk
3 Bavaria 1849 3 krugers blue
3 1/8 Philippines 1864 3 1/8c black on buff
3 1/2 Russia 1884 3 1/2 roubles
4 Swit'nd-Zurich 1843 4 rappen black
4 1/2 Prince Edw. Is. 1870 4 1/2d brn
5 Switzerland Geneva 1845 5c yellow
5 New Republie 1886 5 1-6
6 Switzerland 1843 6c black
6 2-8 Philippines 1864 6 2-8c green
6 1/2 Newfoundland 1857 6 1/2d scarlet
6 2-3 India 1866-8 6a 8 peso
7 Roman States Jan. 1, 1852 7b blue
7 1/2 Canada 1857 7 1/2d green
8 British Gurona July 1, 1850 8c grn
8 1/2 Nova Scotia Oct. 1, 1860 8 1/2c grn
.9 Austria Jan. 1 1850 9 kr blue
10 Switz-Geneva 1853 5c 5c yellow grn
11 Salvador 1891 11c violet
12 Brit Guiana July 1, 1850 12c blue
12 1/2 Canada July 1, 1859 12 1/2c grn
13 Hawaii Oct. 1, 1851 13c blue
14? { Dan West Ind 1873 14s lilac gray
{ Wurtemberg 1864-73 14k orange
15 Aus-Lom'y Ven'e June 1, '50 15c red
16 Denmark 1853 16sh lilac
17 Canada July 1, 1839 17c blue
18 Wurtemberg 1851-2 18h violet
19 Spain Feb 1, 1860 19 cuatras brown
20 France Jan. 1, 1849 20c black
(Continued)



By R. R. THIELE

Here is a letter from China whose postmarks are interesting. It is addressed to a Chinese merchant at Los Angeles, California, and bears a Chinese 10c stamp of the current issue. The postmark on this stamp is intelligible to me, not because of its poor impression, but because of its being entirely in Chinese characters, which is unusual with Chinese postmarks, as, they usually contain the name in English. This may come from some town in the interior. The letter also bears on its face the address repeated in Chinese and the sender's private handstamp impressed in red ink. The next postmark is on the back of the envelope; it is that of the Chinese Imperial post office at Canton and reads

CANTON
13 Jan
04

In the circle above CANTON there are two Chinese characters, the name Kang-tung Canton; but I doubt whether the Express Printing Office has them in stock, so I refrain from inserting them. So far the letter was handled by the Imperial post-office; but as China does not as yet belong to the Postal Union, the letter was now turned over to one of the foreign offices for further transportation. This was the French office at Canton, as shown by the

next postmark, also on the back.

CANTON

13

Janv

04

(two Chinese Characters)

The word Canton and the two Chinese characters are between two concentric circles; the date is in the inner circle. The Chinese characters resemble those on the Imperial postmark, so I suppose they are also the name Canton in Chinese. The Chinese Post office Department has arrangements with the French government whereby the French offices in the treaty ports undertake the forwarding of Chinese letters without further stamps, for a lump sum per year. That is why this envelope bears no further French stamp, as would be the case if it had been handled by one of the other foreign offices. But in view of these circumstances it is rather curious that the next postmark is the following

VICTORIA
10 A. M
14 Ja
04

HONG-KONG

The upper and lower words are between two concentric circles; the date is in the inner circle. I do not quite understand why the Chinese office should turn this letter over to the French office only to have this in turn give the letter to the British office at Hong Kong. The Chinese office might as well have done so directly, for Canton is but a few miles from Hong-Kong. Perhaps there was a saving in it, as the Chinese office possibly did not have to pay as much to the French office as it would have had to pay to the office at Hong Kong; the latter in its turn no doubt han-

les mail from the French offices for a lump sum in payment of transit dues. At all events the letter went forward from Hong Kong and eventually reached this country. I was under the impression that Los Angeles had no direct connection with Hong Kong and other letters from China to Los Angeles in my possession all show the transit postmark of San Francisco, but this letter forms an exception, for the next postmark is the machine stamp of Los Angeles dated Feb. 15, 11:30 p. m. 1904. Is there, then, a direct exchange of mails between Los Angeles and Hong Kong? Perhaps closed pouches come through via San Francisco without further handling. The only remaining postmark is that of Station C, Los Angeles, dated 6:30 a. m., Feb. 16, 1904. The letter thus came through in reasonably good time.

(To be continued)

A Poem A
BY C. E. BEAUFREE

TO THE WEST.

I am an old soldier of our civil war and for over twenty years have been confined to my home almost a helpless cripple from injuries received in that service. I have become interested in stamp collecting and as I was looking over my album this morning the following verses came into my head:

I am getting old and feeble, my hand
it often cramps;
Still I'll never be too old to stop my
search for stamps
Fiends they often call us and we may
deserve the name,
But be that as it may we'll keep
hunting just the same.
The WEST shall be our beacon light
and point us out the way

To fill our albums with the beauties
that are issued day to day.

And we who for something new are
always looking out

Can surely find no better guide to
keep us on the route.

The WEST takes us from our homes
to Asia's distant shore,

Carries us to Ceylon and other lands
galore

And while we are working, our ardor
perhaps damped

The WEST is working hard to see
that we are stamped.

Brother, the WEST will tell you all
collectors lead an upright life

They never steal, come home early
and never beat their wife,

You will find them all hale good fel-
lows and none among them
scamps.

Still they often bother their friends
while looking out for stamps.

An old soldier's greetings surely can
do no harm.

In fact kind wishes may bring you
luck and also prove a charm.

And when I do assure you that you
are getting the very best

There can be no doubt but what you
will whoop it up for the WEST.

The WEST is a dandy of that there
can be no doubt

It knows what we want and it is not
afraid to shout

We read there about all that's good
and it tells us all about the
scamp

Who tries to impose on us collectors
with a bad stamp.

Lithographed stamps differ from
those that are engraved in that they
are smooth, the ink of the printing
appearing level with the paper, as in
the case of any surface printed
stamps.

*A Catalogue of the
Stamps of Trinidad with
Notes*
W M . E . A V L T

I. First Issue. 1851.

On April 11, 1851, the first stamps of Trinidad were issued. They were engraved and printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., of London, England, on white wove, unwatermarked paper, some of which is found more or less blued by action of the ink. There is no denomination expressed on the stamps, but they were sold at one penny each. The design (Scott Type A 1) is rectangular, with the figure of Britannia seated, her left arm resting on a shield and her right arm holding a spear. At her left in the background portions of a ship can be seen. Immediately below the figure is the word "Trinidad" in colorless letters, all capitals. In each corner is an 8-pointed star within a small square. Size $18\frac{1}{2} \times 21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Apr. 11, 1851. Imperforate. Unwmk.

- a. Blued paper.
 - (1d) brick red
 - (1d) brown red
 - (1d) purple brown
 - (1d) blue
 - (1d) deep blue
 - (1d) gray brown
 - (1d) gray
 - (1d) dark gray
 - (1d) brownish gray
- b. White paper.
 - (1d) dull red
 - (1d) brick red
 - (1d) blackish purple
 - (1d) gray
 - (1d) brownish gray

The stamp printed in blue on white paper has been mentioned, but a wholly satisfactory specimen is not

known, for that reason is omitted from the list.

II. Second Issue. 1852-1860.

The second set of stamps appeared in October, 1852. They were engraved by Chas. Petit and lithographed by printers in Trinidad, on white, yellowish and blue unwatermarked paper, varying from thick to thin. As these stamps were in use until 1860, the lithographing stone shows five distinct stages of use, varying from each other in the clearness of the lines of the background. The design (Scott Type A 2) in general is the same as the preceding issue, the main difference being in the border. Size $18\frac{1}{2} \times 21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Oct. 1852. Imperforate. Unwmk.

a. First Stage. These stamps can be distinguished by the very fine, distinct and clear lines in the background.

1. Thin white paper.
 - (1d) blue
2. Thick white paper.
 - (1d) blue
3. Thick yellowish paper.
 - (1d) blue
 - (1d) deep blue
4. Thick bluish paper.
 - (1d) blue
 - (1d) deep blue

The above two stamps on bluish paper appeared somewhat later than the other papers, the date being some time during 1853.

b. Second stage. 1855. The stamps of this period lack the sharpness and clearness of the lines in the background found in the first printings.

1. Yellowish paper.
 - (1d) blue
 - (1d) deep blue
 - (1d) greenish blue
 - (1d) slate blue

(Continued.)

A Philatelic Mystery B Y O L D G R I L L

Every member of the Wilson family is an enthusiastic philatelist.

It was only natural, therefore, that the discovery one morning of the loss of a number of valuable stamps from Everett Wilson's album should arouse a great deal of interest.

If Everett's mother or his sister Elsie had lost a bracelet the misfortune would of course, have been regretted by both Everett and his father; yet it is doubtful whether either would have shed any tears.

On the other hand, if Everett or his father had lost his gun or fishing rod, the feminine members of the family probably would not have allowed the fact to deprive them of their accustomed rest. But the disappearance of the stamps, especially valuable Newfoundland specimens was a misfortune which affected with equal force each member of the family.

Everett's father advised him to procure a strong box with a lock and to keep this in his closet which should also be locked. When Mr. Wilson learned that the stamps could be replaced for about \$12.00 he gave Everett the required amount with instructions to duplicate the missing varieties and in a few days the incident had almost become forgotten. One day, during luncheon, however, the family was informed by Everett that a number of his old United States were missing. "Why didn't you keep them locked up?" asked his father. "I did," was the reply. "Then some one must have taken them while you were showing your album. Who have you shown it to lately?"

"Why, Edie Grace comes over early every day and we trade. I gave her

some of the stamps that Uncle Will bought for me, because I already had them Uncle Will don't know a Continental from a Kings Head." "Who else has been here?" "There is some nice woman who is visiting here, she says, who has been here twice to look at my collection. I happened to be alone both times. I know she didn't take any stamps because I always watch a stranger like that like a hawk and they would have to be pretty clever to steal anything from under my nose. I know that Edie wouldn't take anything that didn't belong to her. Why here she comes now," he added. Through the open window could be seen a flitting, gauzy fairy winding in and out among the flowers of the garden, treading a path toward the house. Finally she came laughing into the room, cheeks aglow, eyes dancing. Yes Everett must be right. No one could accuse of wrong doing such a picture of innocence and sunshine.

The disappearing of the stamps had now become the principal topic of discussion in the Wilson household. Mr. Wilson decided to secretly employ a detective, and one morning Abner Grill received a note advising him of the facts of the case requesting his assistance.

When Grill had read the letter, he remarked to his partner, "Here's a profound mystery—some kid up on the Avenue has lost a few cancelled stamps."

The next morning Everett was surprised to learn that his father had employed a private secretary. He soon had reason to rejoice over the new addition to the family, however, for the secretary seemed to be well posted on matters philatelic and presented Everett with a number of choice specimens. Mr.

Wilson and Grill by a little diplomacy induced Everett to invite the strange woman to call on a certain afternoon and also lead him to believe that no one was to be at home but himself. Everything transpired according to their plans and promptly at the time appointed the strange woman arrived. Everett had placed a table and chairs on the veranda and he and his caller soon became deeply involved in discussing the contents of the album.

The veranda was screened from the street by a trellis of vines which performed the double office of a protection from the rays of the sun and a shield from the scrutiny of curious passers by. Now, unknown to either Everett or his caller, Mr. Wilson and the detective were stationed behind the parlor curtains where they could see without being seen.

"Miss Weir," as the woman called herself was a woman whose appearance indicated nothing out of the ordinary, except that her features seemed to indicate unusual strength of character.

She seemed to be quite talkative and apparently held the boy's undivided attention by her sprightly conversation.

After buying a few stamps the two men in the house heard her say to Everett in a voice which sounded like a command, "Go and pick a bouquet for me in the garden." The boy rose from his seat and walked across the lawn, returning soon with the flowers.

During the interval the two men saw the woman take from different parts of the album a number of stamps which she secreted in a pocket in her dress.

A few moments later she arose to go, but was urgently requested to remain by Mr. Abner Grill, who

with the elder Wilson now appeared on the scene. While Grill was talking to the woman, Mr. Wilson called Everett aside "Why didn't you remain with your album instead of leaving it?" he asked. "I did," was the reply, "I didn't take my eyes off from the stamps for an instant."

Mr. Wilson was dumb-founded. He had never supposed that one of his children could be guilty of such a deliberate lie. "Why what do you mean by such a statement?" he gasped. Grill, overhearing the rather heated conversation called Wilson to his side and whispered something in his ear. "You don't tell me," he exclaimed. Then he looked at the woman, menacingly, "You'll pay for this," he said, shortly.

The detective and his charge departed and Everett and his father walked into the house.

Everett was naturally curious at the sudden turn of affairs but his father evaded his questions and turned the conversation into other channels. The next day Everett announced joyfully that all of the missing stamps had been returned.

The mystery of their disappearance, however, always remained a puzzle to him, for his father decided it would not be advisable to tell him that he had been mesmerized.

Early issues are best and most interesting from the collector's standpoint, for in the old days the thought of securing revenue by the sale of stamps did not occur to the small governments of the world. Therefore the varieties which appear in specimens which are found in fine condition are becoming increasingly rare and therefore desirable.

Philatelic Whys and Wherefores
VERNA WESTON HANWAY

A man who takes his philatelic pleasures as he does his cocktails, cigars and theatre tickets, merely for the pleasure of the moment, said to me one day, "I cannot see the value or use of all this scientific research. I cannot understand why stamp collecting should be carried to such an extent as to become almost a science, which only men who wish to be scientists can follow. Stamp collecting is to me a pastime pure and simple. I do not wish it to be anything else. The time I have for study could not be spent in the study of stamps—I have much more of importance to think of. I cannot understand why anyone should wish to carry philately beyond the range of a very pleasant and agreeable hobby for spare moments."

There are many stamp collectors like this man—men whose business life forbid any further delving into philately than as a pastime. But there are other men and women who have time to spend as they will and intellectual tastes which demand food. It is such who are the props and mainstay of Philately and science. It is such persons who demand such scientific research an investigation. It is such who make and nourish our heavier philatelic literature. It is such who bring out the fascinating and intellectual points in philately. It is such who are the best scholars of the age in other than philatelic matters. It is such who have gained through philately an insight into the inner workings of governments, civilization and manufacture. To be brief it is such who are well poised, intellectual and interest-

ing men and women.

The value of philatelic research cannot be too clearly estimated. A hobby which in itself is a delightful science which induces a desire to more thoroughly understand the past and present of this world we are living in—is not this a hobby worth riding? Is not this a science worth a scientists attention.

I shall not bore my readers with a string of stale platitudes estimating the various benefits which accrue to the studious philatelist. Every philatelist of any experience clearly understands these phases of this subject. Let us instead glance at the good which a deep, scientific study of philatelic matters and conditions gives to philately as a whole which is after all in the philatelists eye more important.

There are numerous works more for the specialist like Lieut. Napier's notes on the stamps of Griqualand, the material for which is gathered by an exhaustive study of thousands and thousands of stamps and of many fine specialized collections. These works are not only a valuable addition to our literature but also a valuable stimulus to yet more exhaustive study.

There was a time when collectors in general condemned such a exhaustive and minute study on the stamps of one country and with this condemnation condemned specialism. Some narrow minded collectors are still condemning but we do not hear so much of this of late years, a change which we have reason to be devotedly thankful for. Philately above all other hobbies or sciences should have broad minded devotees—those who can see what a course of pleasure and profit can be gained from generalizing and can also see that specialism holds great possibilities for both.

Those that find pleasure in specialism should certainly follow their natural bent and vice versa.

Some philatelists declare that there is a danger of an overbalance of philatelic knowledge in certain directions—the outcome of specialism and scientific study upon portions of philately rather than philately as a whole. Such philatelists are followers of general collecting who can only see collecting through their own glasses; it is such who through our press have raised so much controversy upon respective merits of “specialism or general collecting.” This controversy having become so tiresome that the blase philatelist passes the numerous arguments for, and against each, with a weary yawn, and continues collecting in the manner in which he wishes.

But is this so called over balancing such a danger? I may be very obtuse but I must say that I fail to see it that way. Can we truthfully call more knowledge in certain directions a danger? Must all philately contain only a smattering of knowledge, so that all the knowledge may be kept upon an even basis? It sounds ridiculous does it not? Yet these are the very arguments used against deep study in certain directions, by certain well known writers. But granting the argument that this would be a danger to philately (ss)! there remains the fact that if the field for specialism is broad, still almost every country and colony of interest and repute have at one time or another been specialized in and consequently studied. Those who will take the time to look the matter up will find that there is sufficient philatelic knowledge upon every subject pertaining to philately to warrant deeper study.

The minute study philately is now undergoing will prove a fine

thing for the perpetration of interest. It has already added dignity and breadth of scope to our literature. We hope and pray that this careful study of philately in its many phases will continue.

TRIANGULAR STAMP.

By Arthur Irwin Smith.

The first country to issue stamps of a triangular shape was the Cape of Good Hope which between the years 1853 and 1865 issued 24 varieties priced by cost at from 40c to \$40 each. The next probably was New Foundland which in 1857 issued its triangular 3p green.

The smallest stamp is the 2½c lilac, 1865, of Columbia. The largest ones are those of Obock and the Somali Coast colony.

The most common stamp of this kind is the Liberia 5c carmine and black, 1894, priced by Scott at 15c imperforated and 10c rouletted.

Several countries have used “split” stamps that were cut diagonally, thus being of a triangular shape. Among them are Niger Coast Protectorate, Grenada and St. Christopher.

Peru has used a triangular surcharge several times. Turkey used one for Mt. Athos in 1869.

Finally, it will be noticed that all of these stamps are rather scarce and are good ones to have in your collection.

Through their children many women, middle aged and more, have become interested in the work and a physician, himself a collector, recently said that his mother, almost ninety, had had her interest in current events kept live for years through her “stamp album.” She would arrange and rearrange the bits of preforated paper, sometimes according to a color scheme, sometimes as to age and size, and she knew the history of each to the smallest detail.

A Little Talk About Stamp.

William C. Aiken.

Stamp collecting dates back almost to the earliest issues of postage stamps, about 1840. One of the first collectors in this country was captain Preble, of Portland, Maine, who previous to 1856-59 had been saving stamps and putting them aside. The pursuit was recognized in this country and abroad, as the issues of attractive design appeared and appealed to the instinct collective. The pastime has spread to most civilized countries, and collectors can now be counted by the thousand.

At first, no particular value could be placed upon stamps, and they were generally exchanged stamp for stamp, or one for several; later on, collectors offered to buy those more difficult to get, hence the dealers' place was found.

Collecting appeals to the cultured and more intelligent. Among collectors are found the nobility of various European countries, members of the royal families of Germany and Holland, Great Britain and Russia professional people; those in business; military and naval officers, and people of all classes.

With the more advanced, stamp collecting is made a study, and a special branch of science, and it will more generally commend itself to the intelligent, sympathetic and observing ones, who get the greatest pleasure from it. The fascination of gathering and studying all sorts of stamps is a peculiar one not easily described.

A correct comparison of the world's money systems, study in geographical lines, and countless useful facts are among the things a collector will involuntarily learn through a collection.

Although stamp collecting is now largely affected and even suffering

from a speculative craze, the profitable phase of the pursuit must not be lost sight of. Most collections that show careful selection and that are nearly complete in certain countries, will find buyers at advanced figures over cost of making; in many cases yielding handsome profits.

An outlay for stamps should always be made with caution, and of course, according to the means of the collector. The cheapest stamps will give the same pleasure in collecting as those higher in a higher scale of value, and the rarities can be added as opportunity affords.

Many collectors are interested in making general collections, and holding nearly everything that comes into their hands; while others take greater pleasure in specializing, collecting only of certain countries, or special classes of stamps, and making complete collections as far as possible.

The true collector always has a special fondness for his own collection, though it be far from complete. And though simple compared with some of the greater collections he may have seen; it is generally opened and looked over with a feeling of satisfaction that there is none other quite like this one.

ROSINS QUOTED AT HIGH FIGURES.

The price of common rosins has now reached the highest figure at which it has been quoted since the Civil war, and authorities predict that it will be further advanced. This is due largely to the increased demand for the lower grade rosins from Europe, where they are used for soap making purposes, and also to the more limited supply which the cutting away of the extensive producing forests in the south has caused. The Rosin oil are also rising.—New York Times.

Why I Collect Stamps **B Y E . G . L O R I S H**

To collect stamps is to obtain knowledge both geographically and historically. I collect stamps not only because it is my favorite hobby, but also because of the valuable articles I have obtained from it. The collecting of stamps especially foreign teaches us geography and history. I used to collect foreign stamps for some time, but I disposed of them and now make a specialty of U. S. and Colonies. But in the time I collected foreign stamps I have found out that there is a great deal of obtainable knowledge in it. In collecting foreign stamps you come acquainted with a great deal of minor possessions, islands, or countries that you without doubt have never known anything about before, or at least not know whether they were independent, what country they belonged, etc. Then through exchanging with collectors of minor countries you soon learn the capitals or principal towns because dealers and collectors are generally located there. I think the collecting of foreign stamps is very instructive. We have discussed some foreign matters now let us turn over to the U. S. our own noble country.

The collecting of U. S. stamps for my part is of great interest and importance. For the first you become better posted in U. S. postal authorities which perhaps prove a great deal of importance to you in the future. Second, If we study up the easy history of the U. S. Postal system and compare it with today. For instance; the price for sending a letter forty or fifty years ago which was from eight to ten cents or according to the distance it was sent, and the price today but two cents, and many other such instances prove of great his-

toric value to us. Third, by the aid of Philatelic papers we are able to find out more and more about Philatelic history and science, and I deem it proper that each and every thriving collectors should and ought to be a reader of good Philatelic papers. Because it makes the art of collecting stamps a great deal easier than it would otherwise be. I must say that through the aid of this thriving paper and several others. I have learned a great deal about Philately. It encouraged me, and made collecting as I have said before much easier and interesting to me, and I hope that all other collectors will take a similar interest. Then for another part I collect stamps because I like it, its my favorite hobby; and I always think an investment in stamps is never lost money, although you sometimes miss it.

ONE CENT A DAY.

By Raymond E. Scheerer.

I have been collecting stamps for about three years, and in that time I have got more enjoyment out of my stamps than any other amusement. My collection numbers between seventeen and eighteen hundred varieties, and my expense for collecting has not exceeded \$10.00. Now ten dollars for three years averages one cent a day, so you see that by spending one or two cents a day you can get a nice collection at a small cost. Many a time I have been tempted to give it up, but when I consider it I change my mind.

The stamps that are listed in the catalogue for the Island of Formosa were never used for postal purposes. They were issued with the idea of so using them, but were afterwards used as railroad tickets.

Mexican Fiscals BY F. A. BROWN

I missed the September number of the WEST with my "notes" so will try for October.

Since my last I have received Me-keel's catalogue of Mexican Revenues (which however quit with the '96-97 issues). Also received Fre Geo. C. Lundy's "The History of the Revenue Stamps of Mexico" published in 1891.

Mr. Lundy gives a list of all state, district and city names that have been surcharged on the stamps as a control. He lists them by years and anyone interested in this side line of Mexico an Revenues will certainly do well to get the book.

I wish to quote further from Mr. Lundy's book.

On the Federal stamps the following portraits appear. '74-'75. Jose Marie Moreleo, executed Dec. 22, 1815. Issues 1876-77. Don Benito Juarez. President 1867-72 Japoteca Indian. Issue of 1878 Gen. Leandro Valle. Issue of 1879 same as issue of 1876. Issue of 1880 Gen. Vincenti Guerrero. Issue of 1881 Don Melchor O'Campo Priest and liberal patriot hanged by the reactionaries 1863.

Issue of 1882 Valentin Gomez Far-ias, born 1781 self taught skilled in medicine and science. Organized state of Zacatecas Issue of '83-'84. Mora.

Issue of 1885-87. Vicar Hidalgo y Costilla. The father of Mexican Independence. Born May 8. 1753 executed July 30, 1811.

Issue '88-'89 O'Campo.

Issue '98-'90. Cuantemec last king before conquest by Cortez executed August 1851.

Now will some of our Mexican friends tell us who is picture on the Federal of '92-'93, 1900-'01 and '01-'02

also on the Documentos of '92-'93, '93-'94 and 1901-'02, also '91-'92.

The Public Instruction of '96-'97 pictures Benito Juarez.

The Priced Merchandise of 1881 has O'Campo.

We would also like to know who occupies the place of honor on the Renta Interior 1892-93. Also on the Customs House issue of 1889-90 and the following state issues of 1878. Durango issues of 1890 and 1893-94.

In his history Mr. Lundy lists a stamp inscribed "Del Borrego" for Cigarettes he says it is identical in design with the merchandise stamp of 1881 except the circle which is replaced by a Rams head Mon. Horvilleur in his catalogue a stamp that looks like this. What is it?

Secretary Dehacienday Creditu Publico
MEXICO
Propriedadiaz
5\$—CINCO PESOS—5\$
Leydesde Noviembre de 1892

I will begin now to give a list of the fiscals of Mexico according to the most recent information which I have.

The No's. are according to Horvilleur Aduana.

1885-6-34x40mm. Perf. 12½ Plain paper. 100 stamps to the sheet 16x18 inches.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. 1c black | 6. 5p deep violet |
| 2. 5c yellow | 7. 10p deep blue |
| 3. 10c red brwn | 8. 25p lake |
| 4. 25c ult. mar. | 9. 100p vermillion |
| 5. 1p blue grn | 10. 500p crimson |
| | 11. 1000p carmine |

10a 500p Imperforate 11a 1000p im-perforate.

1886-7 39x35 mm. perf. 12½ plain pap.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 12 1c ult .mar. | 17 5p car. vermil. |
| 13 5c " | 18 10p " |
| 14 10c " | 19 25p " |
| 15 25c " | 20 100p " |
| 16 1p car. vermil | 21 500p " |

22. 1000p carmine vermillion

1887-8 40x40 mm. perf 12 on horizontal-

ly laid paper.
 23 1c orange 29 10p yel. grn.
 24 5c " 30 25p "
 25 10c " 31 100p "
 26 25c " 32 25p " Imp
 27 1p yellow grn. 33 100p " "
 28 5p " 34 500p " "
 35 1000p yellow green imp.
 1888-9 40x40 mm. perf 12 on vertieally
 laid paper.

36 1c pruss. blue 41 5p brick red
 37 5c " 42 10p "
 38 10c " 43 25p "
 39 25c " 44 100p "
 40 1p brick red 45 400p "
 46 1000p brick red
 46a 1000p brick red Impf
 1889-90 40x40 mm. perf. 12 on white
 paper

47 1c green 52 5p red
 48 5c " 53 10p "
 49 10c " 54 25p "
 50 25c " 55 100p "
 51 1 p red 56 500p "

57 100p red
 56a 500p impf. 57a 1000p Impf
 1890-91 40x40mm. perf 12½ on pink
 paper.

58 1c brown 63 5p blue
 59 5c " 64 10p "
 60 10c " 65 25p "
 61 25c " 66 100p "
 52 1p " 67 500p "

68 1000p blue
 1891-92 40x40 perf. 12½ on bluish
 paper.

69 1c ultra mar. 74 5p red brown
 70 5c " 75 20p "
 71 10c " 76 25p "
 72 25c " 77 100p "
 73 1p red brown 78 500p "

79 1000p red brown
 1892-93. 40x40 mm. perf 12½ green-
 ish paper.

80 1c orange 85 5p carmine
 81 5c " 86 10p "
 82 10c " 87 25p "
 83 25c " 88 100p "
 84 1p carmine 89 500p "

90 1000p carmine
 Perf 11½x6 1893-94. The 1893-94 issue
 of Doc. was surcharged "Adanna de —
 the last line being the Port of Entry.
 M. Horvilleur says there were 15 differ-
 ent Ports of Entry.

91 1c brown 97 50c olive brown
 92 2c ultra mar. 98 1p greenish blue
 93 3c bronze grn 99 5p " "
 94 5c red brown 100 10p dark blue
 95 10c vermillion 101 25p violet
 96 25c orange 102 50p carmine
 1894-95 Issue surch same as above on
 94-5 issue of Document on perf. 9x12
 103 1c orange red 108 25c lilac brown
 104 2c light brown 109 50c light blue
 105 3c drk " 110 1p carmine
 106 5c chocolate 111 5p orange
 107 10c dark green 112 10p emerald
 1895-96 issue surch same as above on
 95-6 issue of documentos. Perf 12
 113 1c orange 117 light brown
 114 2c rose 118 50c red brown
 115 5c green 119 1p green
 116 10c ultramar. 120 5p lilac
 121 10p red brown

The general issue took place of the
 Documentos & Aduanas beginning
 with 1894-95. Next month will give
 list of the Documentos.

If you can get a number of collectors
 together in your town, say half a doz-
 en or more, start a little stamp society.
 You will be surprised to learn how in-
 teresting it will be if you can get to-
 gether, talk stamps, compare notes,
 exchange your duplicates, and have a
 general good time socially.

The men who advertise in the WEST
 should be shown favor over those who
 do not. If for no other reason, they
 have enough concern for your patron-
 age to ask for your trade and are will-
 ing to spend some money to become
 acquainted.

No one has ever given any business
 an overdose of good advertising.

"Stamp Button" Is 30 Years Old

CHAS. GRANDPIERRE

There is nothing new under the sun, even not the stamp button. The writer of this has worn one already at a time when Sydney Views and Swiss Cantonal stamps and many other rarities of today were willingly exchanged against a couple or two of rubber basls.

But if I claim that we boys of Neuchatel in Switzerland are the real inventors of the very first stamp button, I must admit that our purpose in wearing it was not propagation of philately but that it was simply and solely worn in the hope to be less often the aim for snow balls.

We had two colleges in town; the latin college and the technical school. Between both, respectively their pupils was permanent rivalry which resulted during the winter months in regular snowball battles.

Stamp collectors were in both colleges about in equal numbers. Collecting was very much encouraged by the teachers. No wonder we were a proud set and thought ourselves a great deal better boys than those who could only play balls. Of course, collecting did not prevent us to fight and to defend the "honor" of our colleges as soon as the first snow appeared. There were though several of us who were of opinion that brother stamp collectors should not aim snow balls at each other. I have always suspected one of the teachers to have encouraged this peaceful sentiment and invented the little green and white ribbon, tied in the form of a rosette, which we wore during several weeks as a sign of recognition.

It had the effect desired by the

teachers. Soon most of the collectors ceased to take part in the fighting.

The end of this first stamp button was not very glorious. Every coward, collector or not, began to wear it as an excuse to keep out of battle range. Finally the most enthusiastic snow ball fighters decided to put it on their coats as their emblem of fight and to mock the lukewarm and the cowards and within a week its short lived use dropped altogether.

Experts do not use the fingers to any extent in handling rare stamps. The average rare stamp is too old and too fragile to be handled without great care. If the stamps are in perfect condition their value is enhanced; a slight tear on the other hand, may bring their value down to about one-half of the catalogue price. Many of the early issues were printed on thin paper, almost transparent, which is easily torn, and a pair of stamp tongs are useful in handling such stamps. The ingenious collector can make a very nice pair of stamp tongs by bending in the middle a nice, smooth piece of tin. Any tinsmith will willingly give you a piece of waste tin, for it is of no value to him. A strip five or six inches long and one-half inch wide will make a convenient pair of tongs.

The stamps of Malta give a picture of the shipwreck of St. Paul upon the island, then known as Melita. Paul was being taken with other prisoners from Caesarea to Rome under the charge of a Roman centurion. The vessel encountered a violent storm and was driven out of her course to the island of Melita, where she was wrecked, but all her company of 276 either swam or floated ashore on pieces of wreckage, in safety. The account is given in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 27.

Washington Notes *By C. M.*

The Canal Zone stamps are coming through freely now. The postmark is a rubber stamp of the circular type, with canceler of seven horizontal lines $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. In the upper part of the circle appears the words "Canal Zone" which is repeated in spaces cut in the third and fifth lines of the canceler. The name of the office is in the lower part of the circle, with the date in the center. On the back of the letter appears the stamp of the dispatching office, which is Cristobal for the Atlantic side and Ancon for the Pacific side. All the marks seen are in purplish-red.

LOUISIANA PURCHASE COM- MEMORATIVE STAMPS.

September 15, 1904.

In accordance with paragraph 1 of the notice dated March 22, published on page 9 of the April Supplement to the 1904 Postal Guide, the sale of stamps of the Commemorative Series of 1904 will be discontinued December 1, next. Postmasters must therefore be careful not to make requisitions for more of these stamps than can be sold by December 1, as it is especially desired to have no unsold surplus on hand after they are withdrawn from sale. Beginning October 1, postmasters must state in connection with requisitions for commemorative stamps that the amount ordered will be sold by December 1.

Those postmasters whose present supply of commemorative stamps will probably last longer than December 1 at the usual rate of sale, are directed to immediately place them on sale instead of the regular issue, selling the latter only when specially desired by purchasers. This must not, how-

ever, be construed as instructions to force the sale of the commemorative stamps to purchasers who prefer the regular issue.

Edwin C. Madden,
Third Ass't P. M. Gen'l.

Collectors of revenue stamps will have a new series of customs stamps in the near future. The bureau of Engraving & Printing is now at work on the plates for a set to replace the present issue. They are used mainly on imported cigars, and the change is ordered on account of a controversy between importers and makers of domestic cigars, the latter claiming that the present stamp tends to discourage the use of domestic articles by reason of its conspicuously differing from the ordinary internal revenue stamp.

Matters are at a standstill in Washintgon as regards the proposed new series for the Philippines. The Bureau is awaiting advices from the islands: and a new order for the overprinted 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 cent is ready for collectors.

Some one addicted to the vice of statistics has discovered that the stamp collector in school shows a higher brain average than the dead level youngster unbitten by the mania. He has his eyes opened by his new interest, and he generally knows what is going on all over the world, says this enthusiast. To keep abreast with the tide of new issues he must be conversant with political and economic changes, and to detect the value of a peculiar line—often amounting to hundreds of dollars in a single stamp—he must keep his wits on the alert. According to this authority the education phase of such collecting can scarcely be overestimated.

Philatelic Campaigning

VERNA WESTON HANWAY

What would be the effect upon collecting if every philatelist in the world would consider himself a recruiting sergeant? What would be the effect if every philatelic writer would contribute at least two articles a year to the non philatelic journals? What would be the effect if pamphlets illustrating the broader phases of Philately were scattered throughout the world? What would be the effect if school and clubs were brought to see the educating and fascinating qualities that this hobby possesses?

Would there not be a greater activity in the world of Philately? Would not our journals develop to a marked degree? Would not our societies grow to immense proportions and become great factors for the good of Philately? Would not stamp prices increase? Would there not be an increased studious and moral turn of mind noticeable among our young people? Would not our American exhibitions take on their former glory?

Thinking philatelists have weighed and measured these probabilities well. The result is that spasmodic efforts are made at philatelic campaigning. Publishers have distributed journals. Dealers have given away stamps. Societies are striving to gain and retain the raw recruit. Departments in our journals are being given over to the beginner. Numerous articles strictly for his benefit are appearing in our press. A new paper recently appeared with the announcement that its special object was the encouragement of the beginner.

But the most important factor in philatelic advertising is the departments that numerous non philatelic journals are running. Through these

and the advertisements of dealers and journals that accompany them one-fourth of our philatelists are interested. Does it not behoove us then to carefully look after the welfare of these departments? Advice from earnest philatelists for the bettering would be appreciated by the publishers.

I wonder if philatelists really realize what a thorough campaign would mean. The stamp society could do a vast amount towards the consummation of these ends by taking an active and energetic interest in the campaign. Publishers could do their part by a distribution of recruiting literature. A lecture tour after the manner of Mr. Melville's English lectures would be profitable. Interesting talks illustrated with magic lantern views would draw a great amount of interest. Such a tour was accomplished in England and could be accomplished successfully here.

Let each individual philatelist do his part by interesting at least one person. Let philatelic societies be organized in our public schools. It would not be difficult to interest a large number of students in every town.

The result is well worth the effort. All things prosper with new blood and life infused, and Philately is no exception to the rule.

The attention of collectors is just now drawn particularly to the little kingdom of Korea, which is very likely to lose its independence, as a result of the Japanese-Russian War. There are not many issues for this country, neither are they very rare, and young collectors can in many cases provide themselves with a full set for their albums if they do so before the demand comes which will soon make some varieties scarce.

Notes.

Natural History specimens may be sent through foreign mails at the rate of 2 cents for the first four ounces or less, and 1 cent for each additional 2 ounces.

Unpaid letters received from foreign countries are chargeable with 10 cents for each half ounce. Other matter pays double the rate that would have prepaid the efficient postage.

Parcels-post has now been instituted between the U. S. and Bahamas, Barbadoes, Columbia, Costa Rica, Danish West Indies, Honduras, Jamaica, Leeward and Windward Isles, Mexico, British Guiana, Newfoundland, Trinidad and Tobago, Chile, Germany, Guatemala, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Venezuela, Bolivia, Hong-Kong and Japan. The rate is 12 cents for each pound or fraction thereof, except in the case of Chile and Bolivia where the rate is 20 cents. This rate must be fully prepaid by stamps. Parcels may be registered at the rate of 8 cents.

Letters within the U. S. must be prepaid by stamps or they will not be forwarded. Letters to foreign countries will be forwarded whether prepaid or not. Other mail matter than ordinary letters must be prepaid at least or in part, or they will not be forwarded. Short paid articles are marked "T" and the amount due.

Articles addressed for delivery at the following places in China, viz: Chefoo or Yenti, Chin Kinang, Chung King, Foochow, Kaiping, Kalgan, Kinkiang, Nanking, Newchwang or Ninchwang, Ningpo, Ourga, Peking, Hang Chow, Hankow,

Ichang, Shanghai, Taku, Tien Tsin, Wenchow, Wuchang and Wuhu, are transmissible in the mails made up in San Francisco, Tacoma and Seattle for the U. S. Postal Agency at Shanghai.

Photographs go as printed matter in the foreign mails, but stamps, whether cancelled or not, do not. Printed matter pays 1 cent for each two ounces, stamps pay 5 cents for each half ounce, except when sent by parcels post.

The letter rate of postage within the Universal Postal Union from other countries to the United States is not always the same. From most countries it is 5 cents, 2½ pence or 25 centimes. From Canada and Cuba it is 2 cents. From Mexico it is 5 centavos or 2½ cents. From the Argentine Republic it is 15 centavos or 6 cents. From Brazil 300 reis or 7 cents, from the Falkland Islands it is 4 pence or 8 cents and from Bolivia via San Francisco, from Chile, Ecuador and the Dominico Republic it is 10 cents, while from Bolivia via Panama it is 22 centavos or 11 cents. From the Republic Honduras the odd value of 7 cents is the letter rate to the United States. The reason for this seems to lie in the various system of currency. The uniform rate from the U. S. to foreign countries, Canada, Cuba and Mexico excepted is 5 cents. To these three countries we may send letters for 2 cents each. One half ounce is the unit of weight for letters in the mails to and from foreign countries.

The 1846 ten-cent stamp of Baltimore has brought as high as \$4,080. The St. Louis twenty-cent stamps issued in 1845 are more valuable still. The last one to exchange hands brought a little over \$5,000.

Educational Value of Stamps

BY J. H. SAMBAUGH

The collecting of stamps has an educational value in several ways. From the historical point of view the stamps show the progress in engraving and printing as well as the governmental changes of a nation. Many stamps are valuable as historical reminders. The present series of U. S. postage is the best yet if considered in their educational aspect for they name the portrait and also give the year of birth and death of each personage pictured. Some stamps are educational in a geographical way, those of such issues as give maps of the issuing country. Any collectors must study the maps of all countries in order to correctly place his collection. Then from a zoological standpoint many stamps are highly educational for the excellent engravings of animals, birds, reptiles, etc., are not excelled in any other form of the "art preservative of all arts." Educators are learning more and more to use any thing which arouses interest or enthusiasm in any study for interest is the beginning of attention. Of all that may be used in school there is no other that will increase the student's interest as rapidly as the collection of foreign stamps. It will require the separation of the stamps into at least five divisions corresponding to the five continents. Then these divisions must be subdivided into the countries which issue stamps. This obviously necessitates the consultation of the map of the globe frequently. This is true education for it rouses an interest in information which is eagerly sought for. So that merely classification of postage stamps acquires a

vast fund of knowledge of the republics and monarchs of the world. The transforming of the values in foreign coins to those of one's own country will lead to a knowledge of other languages so that in time the earnest collector becomes a linguist to some extent. The study of a collection with the successive issues of countries with their almost imperceptible changes will develop such faculties as comparison, judgment, close observation of form, color, etc.

SOLITARY STAMPS.

By Grandpierre.

Article in the last issue writer omits the principal solitary stamp: the one of Poland, issued in June 1860 during a short lived period of relative independence of that unfortunate country. It is the more interesting as Poland the only country which has issued only one stamp, as all other solitary stamps have been issued by companies. Poland's stamp must be considered as very rare. Its low catalogue value price is due to the fact, which has been communicated to me by Senf in Leipzig, that there is no demand for it, probably because most collectors strive to complete sets before everything. A member of above firm told me that they hardly receive an order for one of those stamps once a year and that if the demand for it would be as large as for other stamps of equal scarcity its catalogue price would rise to \$100 and more. This proves that not scarcity but the rule of demand and offer makes the commercial value of stamps.

C. A.—A watermark kindly employed by the printers of British colonial stamps. It means "comes after" and shows the stamp to be of later issue than C. C.

Our Illustrations

OUR COVER DESIGN.

Strangers visiting Westerly, Rhode Island, U. S. A. for the first time almost always visit the famous granite quarries. These produce the finest grade of granite in the world for sculptural and architectural purposes.

In the way to the quarries one spies amidst the trees at the corner of High St. and Narragansett Ave., a quaint colonial building with immense stone chimney, partly outside. The roof of the building is of the "pip" style. The windows are of irregular sizes, and small panes of glass. The door is supplied with curious brass latch and knocker, and painted green. The entire exterior of the building is covered with shingles, and vines partially conceal its lack of paint.

Much curiosity is expressed concerning the building, its use, and its owner. As visitors are always welcome ones curiosity is easily satisfied. By using the old brass knocker and inquiring of the boy who answers the knock you would learn that this is Ye Hollie Studio, and owned by Fred Stewart Greene the painter and illustrator.

Entering the studio is like stepping back into the sixteenth century. Everything in the reception room with the exception of the pictures and casts which cover the walls, is extremely old. There are parts of the building at least two hundred and fifty years old, and most of the contents are more than one hundred.

An idea of the interior may be gained by examining the cover of his month's WEST. This was especially drawn by Mr. Greene for us and shows one corner of the reception room. Unfortunately it is impossible to show some of the finest pieces in the curio collection or the immense beams with the bark on used in constructing the building.

Many of these articles in Mr. Greene's collection are heirlooms, some of the most noticeable being the curious old desk of rare pattern, the old tall clock on the stairs, and valuable old blue dishes, etc. These are all utilized by him in his profes-

sion, and paintings introducing them are seen in many exhibitions.

After examining the pictures "painted from nature" and the old furniture, Revolutionary arms and other curios, one is invited to step into the working studio. This is lighted by a big north light by day and gas at night. It is furnished with a large "throne" for posing models and all the easels, drawing, paint boxes and tools used by the craft. Curios from everywhere are interspersed and "Artistic confusion" reigns supreme. The most delicate Japanese carvings hob-nob with mysterious looking old leather bound books and curious German steins and pipes.

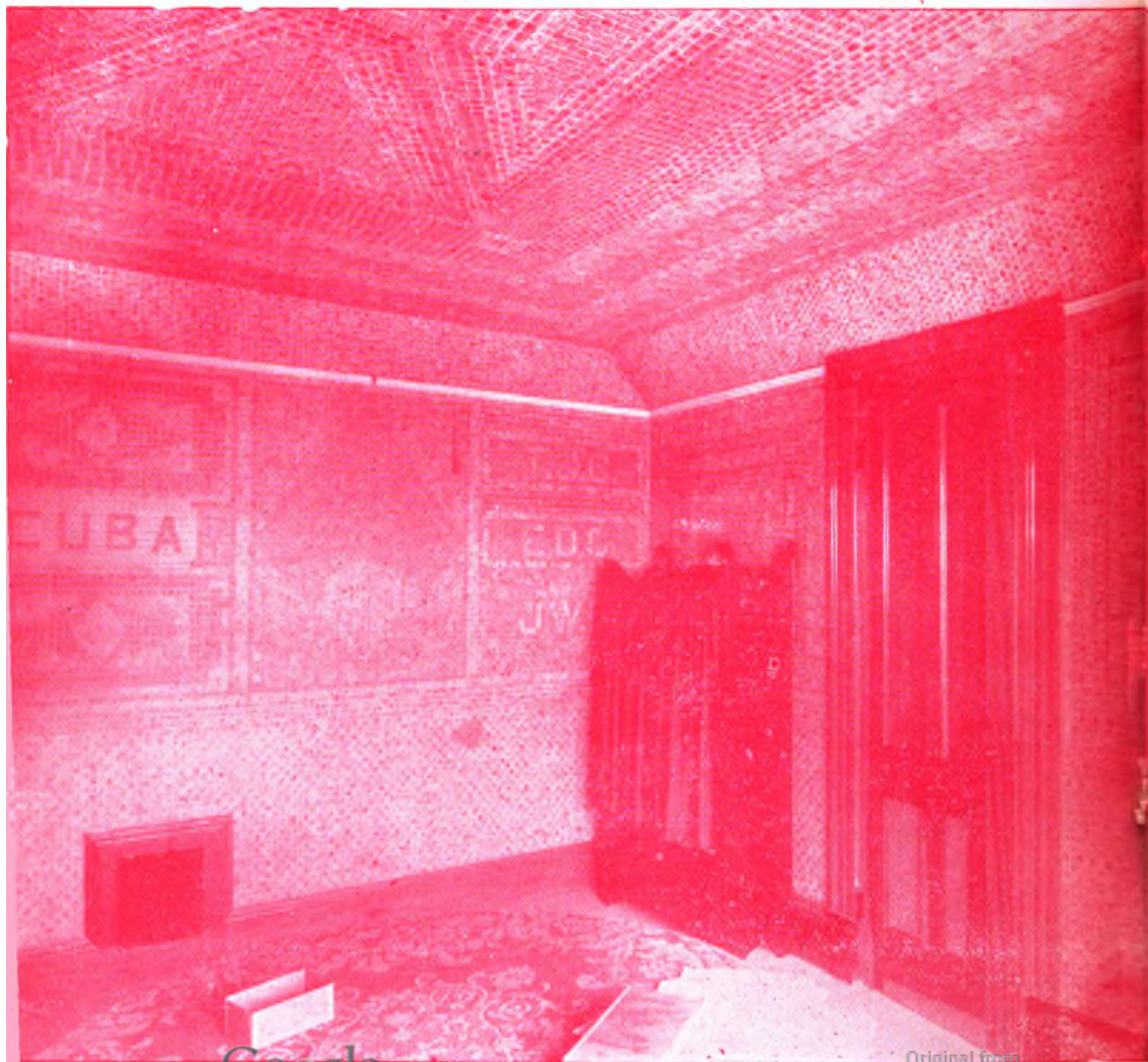
If it happens to be a class day, industrious students will be drawing and painting such objects as they are interested in, and others will be having their outdoor work criticised. Some of their work shows them to be real "artists in the bud." Mr. Greene's method of teaching art is the same as that of the best art schools, so one abilities are rapidly developed.

He is an enthusiastic collector of antiques or curios if artistic, and much interested in historical research and genealogy.. He is a direct descendant of some of the original settlers of Rhode Island and Connecticut, and also of a brother of Gen. Nathaniel Greene of Revolutionary fame. For nearly three hundred years his family have lived within twenty miles of the present studio. This applies to all four branches, so he takes much pride in being of the best old Yankee stock. Mr. Greene himself was born in 1876, attended the public schools at Westerly till 1894, when he says he had absorbed all the drawing they could impart and not much else but mischief. He then entered the Rhode Island School of Design at Providence and took the painters' course, graduating in 1898. The following season he attended classes at the Art Students' League in New York, and also studied with the famous illustrators there. On finishing the work in New York, his mother, also an artist, moved from the small home studio, and both to



J. N. Bates, Walla Walla

C. Abbott Davis, J. W. Prevost, Springfield, Mass.
Director Roger William Park Museum, Providence, R. I.



Digitized by Google

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

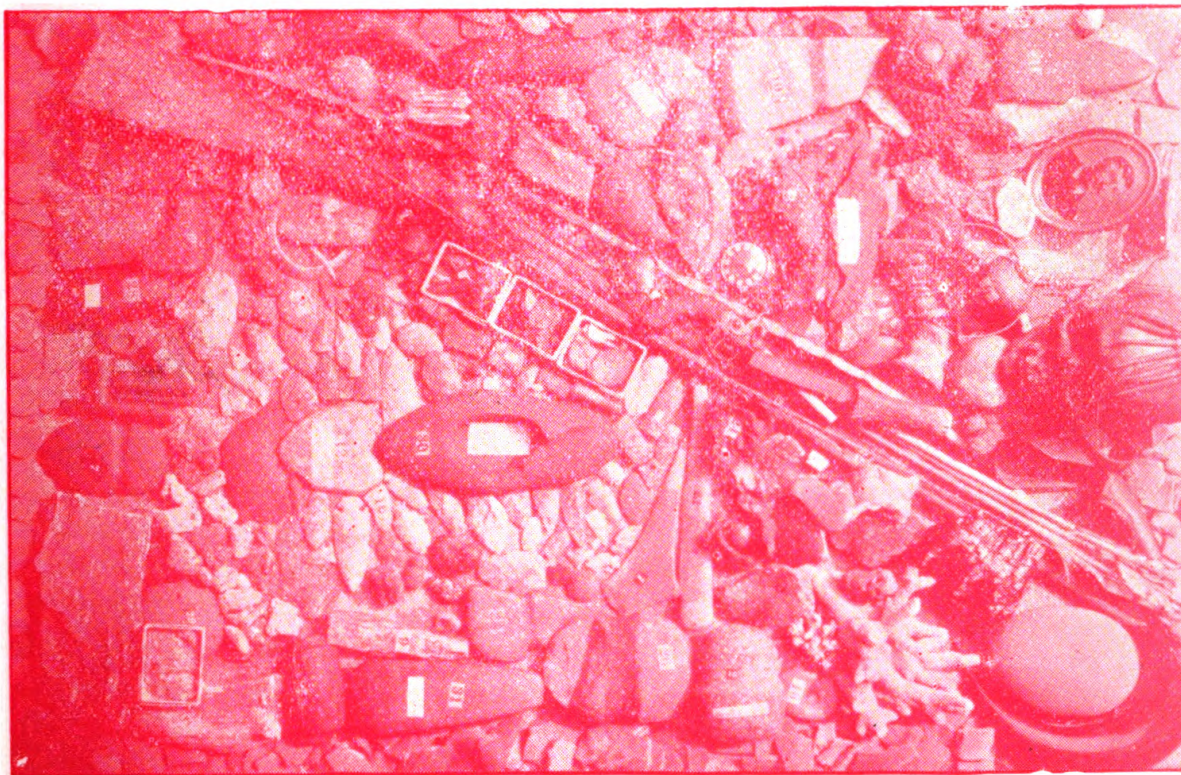
STAMP ROOM OF J. W. PREVOST, Springfield, Mass.



Was E. B. Jones, Sioux City, Iowa



S. MONTCOMERY, Rome, Ga.



gether fitted up a large one in a business block in Westerly. As they soon needed more room, the present building was erected using parts of historical houses when possible. As the building now stands it closely resembles a house in Exeter, R. I., built in 1753. The business has gradually increased so that Mrs. Greene now finds it necessary to occupy the old studio at the house, and both are running over with pictures of all kinds. These are shown at the different art exhibitions and a number of prizes have been taken. Mr. Greene at the present time has a water color painting entitled "Dark and Dreary," on exhibition at the St. Louis Fair. This is considered quite an honor for a man of his age and experience in art. He has also been elected a member of the Corporation of the Rhode Island School of Design. At New London Conn., he has charge of the life, anatomy and illustration classes at their School of Design since the founding two years ago. He has also invented a system by which pupils may have practical art instruction by mail and have the use of the same books used in the best art schools in the country.

The flint lock gun photo is J. J. Rettinger's full collection of Indian relics and minerals fossils with a border of ancient pottery. This collection is picked up all over the northwest and by a number of his friends and new pieces coming every day. If any collectors not posted in the West I will be glad to give them some information and how to find a few good locations.

J. W. Prevost was born in Springfield 1867 graduated from high school and is builder by profession. He began collecting in 1881 and has over 7000 varieties. He is a general collector and specializes in France and Colonies and Belgium. It is his pride that he has never sold a stamp. The photo of his stamp room shows over 150,000 stamps in one room, having entirely papered his den with stamps. Curtis & Champagne helped Prevost undertake and complete the

work from designs sketched by the latter. Ceiling consists of series of borders with 4 diamonds meeting in the centre and composed of French 5 franc stamps. The remainder is done in red U. S. 2c and blue French 15 centimes stamps, walls divided with panels. Each of the workers put a design with which he was the most familiar, one having visited Cuba so ornamented the wall with green background of Cuban stamps and put on the inscriptions Cuba in letters. A pretty panel is fashioned out of U. S. War revenue stamps in the form of maltese cross, and the back ground of this is of orange stamps. Another panel contains the initials of the six who performed the work. The members of Springfield stamp club who have seen the den are loud in their praise of its singular effectiveness and beauty.

Mr. Stafford Montgomery of Rome, Georgia, began to deal in stamps in 1899. At first he sold stamps only on approval, but in 1901 he enlarged the business adding large variety packets and philatelic sundries. In 1902 he added two more departments, filling want lists and selling wholesale supplies. One year later he started a general novelty business. Mr. Montgomery has a collection of over 5000, varieties of stamps, which catalog more than \$5000.00. He began this collection in 1901. He will be pleased to send you his new price list or his big novelty catalog. See his ad in this paper.

J. W. Bates of Walla Walla, Wash. has been a collector of curios and relics of all kinds and has been collecting for 20 years more or less and has about 3200 different varieties old coins, almost as many U. S. stamps and some 50 pieces old guns, pistols, etc., about 400 Indian relics all kinds and old Mahogany beds, stands, chairs, etc., in fact has always been interested in any old relics. He is now on the road most of the time and so don't have time to attend to collecting but always keeps his eyes open and will be glad to exchange. Write him.

E. B. Jones, of Sioux City, has just issued a neat Check List of all kinds of Philatelic Journals British Colonies, giving all numbers issued from 1864 to 1902.

avis has started a curio article in this number. Roy F. Greene gives him a write-up in Curio

Digitized by Google

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



BY ROY FARREL GREENE, A S o f C C

Dr. T. H. Brewer, of Lawton, Okla., has in his possession, so I am informed, an Indian mummy which was found last May a year ago in a cave at Elk Mountain in the Wichita range. It is the form of a little Indian, probably eight years of age. It was when found, wrapped in a covering after the fashion of the Indian tribes, and there was a varitey of beads and Indian trinkets surrounding it. The doctor believes the child to have been dead about seventy years and thinks it was of the Aztec race.

About a month ago at Forrest City, Kan, a man named John Shaffer noticed a flaw in a board which formed part of a fence he had built about six years ago from native timber grown on his farm and cut up in a native saw mill. He split the board and was surprised to discover an Indian arrowhead of stone which had been imbedded in the wood. The board in which the bit of stone was discovered was cut from a very large elm tree, and Mr Shaffer says that the position of the arrowhead in the board showed that it had been about six inches inside the bark of the tree at the time the latter was cut down. This would indicate the arrow's having been shot into the tree perhaps more than a hundred years ago.

Another link connecting birds and reptiles has been discovered by Dr. E.

Lonnberg, a Swedish naturalist, in the horny beak-sheaths of petrels, albatrosses and other birds of that class. The sheath is composed of several distinct pieces, and proof is offered that these are identical with certain scales of the head and lower jaw of lizards and other reptiles.

According to a report that reaches our desk from Muskegon, Mich., the skeleton of a mammoth of enormous proportions was unearthed on the 15th of September on the farm of C. L. McKay, near that place. One tooth found was seven inches long and five inches thick. The skull measured three feet eight inches length wise and two feet four inches across the forehead. Projecting from one side was a tusk nine feet long. A thigh bone three feet long, five vertebrae fourteen inches in lateral diameter by one in perpendicular, four smaller vertebrae, evidently from the root of the tail, two ribs and two bones probably from a foreleg were also found. The teeth are reported to be in a good state of preservation but the bones somewhat rotted.

In the Anthropology bulding at the Worlds Fair two genuine Egyptian mummies are among the most popular exhibits, judging by the number of presons who constantly throng the lower room of the Egyptian section, where the mummies are kept. The older of the two is that of the daughter of an Egyptian

nobleman and dates from the late new Empire, about 800 B. C. The mummy is preserved in its original casket, which is covered with inscriptions. The linen in which the body was wrapped at the time of its embalming has been removed from the face and visitors may study the actual features of a fellow human who died more than 2,700 years ago. The other mummy, which is completely covered with layers of linen wrapping, yellow with age, is that of a nobleman of the Greek period, about 200 B. C. Both mummies, with the original coffins, are enclosed in glass cases. The mummies are under the charge of Arthur B. Coover, representative of the Egyptian government. Mr. Coover, by the way, is one of the early members of our society, the American Society of Curio Collectors, and has been a frequent contributor, to the columns of the WEST. Members of the society and other readers of the WEST who visit the St. Louis Exposition must not forget to call on Brother Coover and make themselves known to him.

One of the valued members of the Curio Society, C. Abbott Davis of Providence, R. I., now holds the position of curator of the Providence Museum of Natural History, located in Roger Williams Park of that city. Prof. Davis has been filling the position in our society of Superintendent of the Entomological department, but as he has, in his new position as curator of the Providence public museum, charge of a collection of more than 50,000 shells, he is now devoting most of his time to the study of Conchology, and for this reason Mr. Davis wishes to be transferred to the head of that department in our society. Such transfer will be noted on the Socie-

ty's official page in this issue. Cut of him also in Illustrations.

The curio editor is in receipt of a letter from one of our A. S. of C. C. members, who lived in Illinois when he joined but now resides in Alaska. The letter was in reply to one the editor wrote him in June 1902 and his reply is dated June 11, 1904. The member referred to is Brother H. R. Marsh, M. D., (No. 137), formerly of Joliet, Ills., now of Pt. Barrow, Alaska. He says that he received the editors' letter in 1902 all right, but the yearly mail failed to reach Pt. Barrow in 1903, so he feels somewhat cut off from the world, and his collecting brothers. He says he is "coming out" again this year, providing the ice goes out and the supply vessel gets there. His collection now, he says, is entirely along the line of Eskimo ethnology. The members of the society may be interested to know that Brother Marsh is primarily at Pt. Barrow, Alaska, in charge of the Presbyterian mission, but to take charge of one mail a year he has also been commissioned postmaster of the most northern postoffice in the world and represents Uncle Sam also by being U. S. commissioner for the district. Then, to fill in spare time he is local superintendent of the Reindeer. "If you think there are any more offices or occupation that have no fees or emoluments, that might be further appended to me," he says. "just say the word, and I'll try to arrange it." Brother Marsh expects to be in Joliet soon and will want to exchange specimens.

The curio editor, who is also President of the American Society of Curio Collectors for another term, according to the recent election, is contemplating the issuing on or about Jan. 1, 1905, a year book or else a

quarterly of the society which will contain a full roster of members, data as to what each member collects, etc. There will be many essays, pictures, etc. If the publication should be a quarterly instead of an annual the publication will be followed in three months with another, and so on, indefinitely. It will be purely a labor of love, but the society needs a corrected list of the membership thus arranged for handy reference, and though the curio editor is a busy fellow, spending on an average 14 hours each day at his desk engaged in literary work, the quarterly or annual will be attempted.

Illinois Farmer Finds Two Copper Axes In an Indian Mound

(From an Old 1901 Paper)

A man by the name of John Hendricks, who lives upon what is known as the Gillham farm near Alton, Ill., found two pretty copper axes in a mound on that place. Sometime ago Hendricks decided to grade down one of the numerous mounds in a field, several of these have already been opened and bones and relics taken from them. He used a scoop shovel and struck something hard in the mound. Searching in the dirt, he found a little copper axe. It was green with the oxide of age. He searched further, and found another axe, just like the first one. The Hendricks axes are about 4 inches high. They are made of pounded drift copper, and are quite graceful in shape. They are what is known as wedge axes, and are among the rarest Indian relics in the Mississippi valley. Some of the copper axes found in the mounds of Illinois and neighboring states, are large and more elaborate than those found on the Gillham farm. There are 2 in the State museum at Springfield, Ill.,

in which a half moon is inlaid in the side of the axe.

Hiawatha and his prospective father-in-law were sitting before the latter's tepee.

"I was looking for flints for arrow-heads over on the ridge today," remarked the young brave, "and found several quartz."

"I must tell that to my daughter," the arrowmaker chuckled. "It will make Minnehaha."

A CONTINENTAL BILL.

A rare curiosity, a Continental \$8 bill dated Nov. 2, 1776, Philadelphia. Seeing a newspaper clipping relating to my father which I consider worth relating, I give it word for word as follows:

THE OBSERVANT CITIZEN.

A correspondent writes me as follows: There appeared in the ads of the Post of January 11 and 12 an advertisement of an \$8 bill, which the owner offered for sale. I wish to say that Mr. Sanborn has refused an offer of \$25 for this rare curiosity. It is in perfect condition and was once paid to Jonathan Snow, a Vermont soldier of the War of Independence as a part of his pay due for service in the Revolutionary war.

It has been carefully kept by his grand daughter Mrs. Franklin Grace of Tamworth, N. H., a lady nearly 80 years of age, from whom Mr. Sanborn bought it for a price. Mr. Sanborn is very much out of health, which is the reason he assigns for parting with it. Mr. Sanborn is a Massachusetts veteran, having served with the 26th and the 28th Massachusetts Volunteers, War of the Rebellion.

I will go on to say that my father, John O. Sanborn of Brookfield, N. H. has still got the \$8 bill in good condition for it lies on the stand beside me while I write this.

Carte Mobile Trip Around The World

B Y M . K E L L E R

The church of St. Thomas is another fine edifice in gothic style of the 13th and 14th century as well as the Evgl. Garnison kirche with its many spires. This last view ends our trip and as we journey on we pass the villages of Hagednbielen, Dienza, Altkirche, Fienkwiler, and other fine localities giving magnificent diversity of scenery. On leaving Elsass we turn to Luxemburg, which possesses the distinction of having a remarkably picturesque situation and celebrated fortifications. Every stage of our route along the river Petrusse and Alzette unfold fresh beauties, and scenes of interest which restrictions of space will not permit of our describing. From Martelange we have an interesting series, some of which come in Folding cards with fine Panoramic views of the City and entire surroundings. Radelage, Ecausisnes-Lalaing and many other towns are beautifully represented. The French and German have almost from the first taken kindly to the Picture post card, and is one reason this country has almost every village supplied with cards. Belgium we find fully as well represented. Several views are from Verviers but the town has not much in striking architectural features. We therefore will pass on to Liege and describe various points of interest shown on the post cards. It occupies a fine position on the banks of the Muese. On the left hand side stands the older city with the citadel and the more important historical bridges. The river is spanned by several bridges of which the Font des Arches is perhaps the oldest, dating from the

8th century. The historical center of Liege is the Place St Lambert. Here still stands the noble building erected by Cardinal de la Marcke in a late Gothic style—which down to the revolution was the palace of the prince-bishops, and is now occupied by the public courts and other offices. Various fine cathedrals are seen both old and new. Among them are the St Jacques, a fine Gothic building with a Romanesque tower. St. Barthelemy, a completely modernized edifice from the 8th century; St Martin and the Holy Cross are all fine. The University of Liege is perhaps one of its most important buildings as well as the schools of music and art in general. It has a museum, a Zoological garden, and blind asylum. One card shows a statue of Greta the composer who was born in Liege. Having had a glimpse of the most interesting parts we will go onward to visit Namur, picturesquely situated on both banks of the Sambre. In Caesars time Namur was the capital of the Audatuci, after his defeat of the Nervii, betook themselves to this one town. On one folder we see a panorama view along the river showing the citadel on a rocky eminence defended by walls of considerable thickness, by well constructed outworks on both sides of the river. It was long a place of strength in modern times also. It is an imposing sight, especially as depicted on one card as seen from the citadel. The rivers are crossed by several strong bridges, the streets are broad and nicely laid out. It also has several fine squares. The only buildings of antiquity now standing are the belfry and place of justice. The church of St. Loup is one of the finer but modern buildings. Grandest of all the views is the birds eye of Namur. These are beautifully retouched with delicate

water colors and make a very fine card. Other views are from Louvain, situated on the Dyle near Brussels. The hotel de ville, or town hall is one of the most elegant of the characteristic late pointed Flemish civic edifices. Its beauty and artisticness is indescribable. The University appears on another card. This is very large, having an attendance of about 1300 students. The fine church of St. Pierre is also seen. This dates from the 15th century. Having now reached Brussels and its many suburbs situated on the Sene we will take in the new sights. From here we have many fine views among which appear the grand cathedral, an imposing monument of the 13th century, the west front is flanked by high square towers and three canopied portals and an arched gable. It contains the noted pulpit by Verbruggen (1699) and is called the throne of St. Gudule. It is a mass of excellent carving in wood with a canopy supported by angels on which stand the Virgins destroying the serpent. Next we see the palace of the Nation built by Maria Theresa for the Council of Brabant and is now the seat of the senate, and chamber of debates. This is better known as the Palace of justice. From the place de la Monnaie we see the Theater, the mint and the exchange. From the place des Martyrs we see many beautiful views showing the Jardin Botanique beautiful walks adorned with groups of sculpture and handsomely ornamented with sculptures in stone and bronze. Other sights show the grand Bazar Anspach and one of its large depots. Various interesting views are from the suburbs of this place among which are seen sights from village and battle fields of Waterloo, showing the Lion of Waterloo guarding against the eagle of France, an immense mass of

granite on which is mounted the statue of the British lion standing in an alert and fierce attitude on the very top of an enormous pyramid. We now find ourselves in the village of Lacken, where we see the royal castle of the King as well as other fine views from the promenade which runs along the Mechlin canal having a triple row of linden tree on each side, which leads from Brussel to Lacken. Courtrai is also beautifully represented having many fine views. One shows the massive old tower bridge of three arches, with its great stone towers on each side. Others show the church of Notre Dame and the noted town hall (finished in 1528). It was here the Flemings defeated the French in the battle of the Spurs. We find ourselves in Holland, and will try to give interesting account from the start at the seaport of Rotterdam over the entire extent of Wilhelmina's domain visiting the main cities as well as the smaller ones. The present American consul in Rotterdam, Col. Listoe, has prepared a most interesting pamphlet about the historical events and the present-day associations therewith, at the little suburb of Rotterdam and other cities. The most interesting views are those showing typical country homes in Holland.

On these one may see the barn yards as well as the residences, there being a mixture of curious surroundings from the barnyard fowls down to the little dutch boys in wooden shoes or klumpen, and flaring dutch caps. Peasant families in their homes, men at work or resting from their work along the river banks. In short one gains a good idea from these views learning their ways, habits and manner of work and their various implements which differ much from ours.

(Continued.)

Dante Cards, Illustrated by Gustave Dore

M . K E L L E R

A most interesting set of picture post cards is one illustrating various scenes reproduced from the famous Dore Edition of Dante's *Inferno*. Some views of the first series represent the writer as being lost in a glooming forest, and being hindered by certain wild beasts from ascending a mountain, is met by Virgil who promises to show him the punishment of hell. He thus follows the Roman poet, and thence the vision of Dante. A second view shows these men on their journey, after which he is promised to be conducted by Beatrice into Paradise. "I do beseech thee to lead me where thou saidst, that I St. Peter's gate may view, and those who are in such dismal plight." This quotation as well as others are printed on each card describing the illustration of each Canto. Of Canto II., we see Dante and Beatrice, the latter is speaking to Dante: "I who now bid thee on this errand forth Beatrice, from a place I come, rested with joy." Of Canto III., we see Dante and Virgil entering the gates of Hell. "All hope abandon ye who enter here." Then pursuing their way, they arrive at the river Acheron, and there find the old ferryman, Charon, who takes the spirits over to the opposite shore, which as soon as Dante reaches he is seized with terror, and falls into a trance. One view shows the old ferry man in a bark. "And lo! lo toward us in a bark comes an old man, hoary, white with old, crying," "Woe to you wicked spirits! Hope not ever to see the sky again I come to take you to the other shore into eternal darkness to dwell in fierce heat and

in ice." From Canto IV., we see scenes from the first circle of hell, called Limbo, where he finds the souls of those who altho they have lived virtuously, and do not suffer for great sin through lack of Baptism merit not the bliss of Paradise. From Canto 5, there are views showing Minos the infernal Judge by whom the poet is admonished to beware how he enters the second circle of hell. Here are seen the punished of carnal sinners who are tossed about ceaselessly in dark air by the most furious winds. These words are quoted. "The stormy blasts of hell with restless fury drives the spirits on." "There Minos stands grinning with ghastly features for when before him comes the ill-fated soul it all confesses." Canto 6, is illustrated as showing where the Gluttonous are punished. Their torment is to lie in the mire under continual storm of hard storms of hail, snow and water, Ceberus meanwhile barking over them with his threefold throat. Ceberus is a cruel monster, fierce and strange, barking like a dog, his eyes glare crimson, and with a large body and clawed hands as well as a black beard. With his claws he tears the spirits. Dante says: "So passed we thro that mixture of foul spirits, and rain with tardy steps". In the seventh circle at the beginning of which he sees Plutus stationed, one like doom awaits the prodigal and the avaricious; which is to meet in direful conflict rolling weights against each other with mutual upbraiding. From hence Virgil takes occasion to show how "vain, how brief, and goods committed into fortune's hands for which the human race keeps such a coil! Not all the gold that is beneath the moon, or ever hath been of these toil worn souls, might pur-

chase rest for one." Another scene shows the wrathful and gloomy souls tormented in the Stygian lake. Still another scene shows how the souls try to force off the weights of fortune. "From, one side and the other, with loud voice, they rolled on weights by main force of their breasts, and then smooth, together turning again, exclaiming, "Why holdest thou so fast?" "And why canst thou roll it away?" So repeating their spiteful song. From Canto 8 are seen views showing Phlegyas, the ferryman of the lake conveying Virgil and Dante. Another shows souls of those whom anger overcame, struggling in fierce waters, a miry tribe with looks betokening rage. One card shows the poets with the ferryman, rowing over the dead channel, when some souls drenched in mire hold on to the barque and ask. "Who art thou that thou comest ere thine hour?" Stretching forth his hand one pulls aside the barque, then thrusting him back the boatman cries: "Away down to the other dogs!" Another scene depicts hellish furies and their monsters. The city of Dis the poet enters by the help of an angel. Here he discovers that the heretics are punished in tombs burning with intense fire. Another view shows miserable hags who tend the queen of endless, woe, there being Erynnis, Megaera and Tisiphone. Canto X, is illustrated showing Farinata Vberti and Cavalcante, who lie in their fiery tombs that are open and not to be closed up till after the last Judgment, holding discourse with Dante. Next we see Dante arriving at the verge of a rocky precipice where he sees the heretics. Here the poets are retiring or resting near a large lid or rock where Virgil tells that within those rocks are there

closed circles filled with accursed spirits. Still another scene shows the horrible circles filled with accursed spirits. Still another scene shows the horrible Minotaur, the infamy of Crete. On seeing this monster, the poets descend a very rugged way leading to the circle where the violent are punished. Here they see a river of blood wherein are tormented those who commit violence against neighbors. At these when they strive to emerge from the blood a troop of Centaurs, running along the side of the river rain arrows. Another scene shows a centaur carrying the poets across the stream, and on their passage Dante is informed by him of those that are punished therein, "These are the souls of tyrants, who were given to blood and rapine." Dante now enters the second department which contains both those who have done violence to themselves and those who violently consumed their goods. The first are seen changed into rough and knotted trees whereon the harpies build their nests. The latter are chased and torn by black mastiffs. Dante stretches forth his hand touching a branch when the trunks exclaimed, "Why pluck'st thou me? Wherefore tear'st me thus? Men once were we, that now are rooted here." Dante says, "In letting fall the bough, remained as one assailed by terror," for he hears loud rustling around him, and lo! "Haste thee now the foremost cried, now haste thee death!"

(Continued.)

*Woman Collector's
Department A A
VERNA WESTON HANWAY*

THE FIRST STAMP LESSON.

Well I have taken just one degree
Of that mystic rite Philately,
I thought one lesson would be enough
To learn all about this sticker stuff,
And the third degree I could leave
behind
For ancient Scottish—no British—
mind
But there I was at the ladder's foot
Waiting for Wisdom that I might
loot
Without much effort her stamp made
lore,
She kept away from my study door
So I fell on a black backed stamp,
That proved to my eyes a guiding
lamp.
The first of its kind in the world
they say,
And who is able to say them "nay,"
The fair, sweet face of a girlish queen,
The letter A and a D is seen.
In upper corners a Maltese cross
Was placed to the picture well em-
bossed
No, it is flat, but whose was the care?
What was the reason for placing it
there?
Now have I stuck a favorite trail
When I can answer I'll lift the veil.
St. Julian.

LITTLE CHATS.

The companion of those catalogues devoted to collecting has always been a sort of a fad of mine—so much so that I have mentally divided the catalogues into two sections, those of the woman and those of the man dealer.

My reason for this is that I have found as a general rule, that in point of beauty and conciseness the woman dealer's catalogue is apt to be super-

ior to that of the man. Of course this is a rule that will admit of exceptions.

My last mail brought me two catalogues—one from a woman, and one from a man dealer. The woman's catalogue was beautiful in printing, beautiful in illustrations, beautiful in descriptions, and beautiful in prices!—which respective "beautifuls" proved a delight to the mind, and purse. It is needless to say that woman's career has been a success. I venture to prophesy that it will prove yet more so.

The catalogue from the man was certainly a botchy affair. The printing and manner of binding were slip shod, the descriptions were far from lucid, and the prices were—extravagant!

Of course these two catalogues represent the extremes. It would be ridiculous to state that all catalogues of men dealers were as delinquent, or that all catalogues published by a woman were as superior.

What I do claim however, is that the woman dealer is generally the most careful about the little details which go to make the whole. I have never in the course of years of collecting met with but two or three catalogues published by a woman that might, really be termed slip shod.

An attractively got up catalogue, attractive in typographical appearance, in explanations and prices is sure to carry with it the confidence and trade of the collectors. It would be well for many dealers if they would follow the example set before them by progressive dealers, and learn that an attractive advertisement is sure to open the purse strings—the collector is a fastidious creature. The active stamp season is now commencing and it will prove profitable for the dealer to cater to the collec-

tors fastidiousness—that is if he knows which side his bread is buttered upon.

Miss Susan Hicks-Beach, daughter of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, has stood as the model for the figure of Britannia upon the new issue of florins. This is by no means the first time that a subject has been chosen for that purpose. Pepys records that the beautiful Miss Frances Stuart was chosen to represent Britannia on “the king’s new model.” Charles also perpetuated the prettiness of the notorious Duchess of Portsmouth, but upon copper coins only. The countenance of Martha Washington has appeared upon many of our treasury notes. The silver dollars show the features of a certain pretty American. The Rothschilds used the head of the Baroness Rothschild, 100 years ago. In 1897 the State Bank of Budapest engraved the face of a prima donna Mme. Louise Blaha upon its 1000 gulden notes.

No one has a greater horror of adages and axioms than I, dear sisters. I shall however turn to one in this instance, for I am “preaching”—which I suppose you consider an odious thing to do. I take as my text, “Eternal vigilance is the price of safety.” I, like many other philatelists had grown careless after long practice, and was positive that I knew of every rarity in my possession. The other day while looking over a mass of duplicates my eye fell upon a stamp which appeared unfamiliar. It was the 3c proprietary green, first issue, part perforated, with Washington’s head in oval, catalogued at \$1500.. My first thought after making an examination of it was that it was of the same issue, on old paper, catalogued at \$15. Thinking

I did not have it I opened an album, devoted to United States revenues. Yes, there was the stamp, but with this difference—my supposed duplicates being part perforated was the superior, by \$1450. Not such a great find, but it proved the stimulus required. I carefully looked through the piles of duplicates and found many varieties that I had overlooked. The two proprietaries mentioned came into my possession from an old photograph album, in my early collecting days. Selecting the brightest I had, put it into the album—the other was thrown among a packet of cheap Continentals.

Some years ago there was a fad for decorating china plates with postage stamps. This fad has been revived, but in a slightly different form. Vases of all sizes and conditions are being decorated with the large, handsome, pictorial stamps. The stamps when put upon the vases artistically present an extremely handsome appearance. I know of several persons without the slightest interest in Philately who have purchased large and expensive packets of stamps to treat vases in this manner. Many make a point of buying rare stamps and in such cases the owner points with great pride to those particular stamps. A certain woman is making a collection of vases so treated. “Why don’t you collect stamps in the orthodox manner since you seem so interested?” I inquired “Oh it is really too much trouble. I tried it once and spent heaps of money and no one took any interest except the few collectors I knew. Now everyone can admire these vases, while they would not the other way. They could not understand it.”

Plain vases are the ones that are generally used.

Details of Collecting **B. V. R. B. F. I. E. L. D.**

We see few details published of historial and curio collections. Possibly some of the many readers of the WEST would be interested in a partial list of what my collection contains.

General collection postage and revenue stamps over 8,000, 50 varieties Vermont woods showing heart, end and bark; section of Eucaliptus tree from California one inch thick 7 by 8 inches in diameter grown from seed in three years; drawer front 7 by 13 inches taken from an old desk that is covered with Masonic emblems and in one corner, "Lewis Beals 1810". Little he dreamed when making these drawings that nearly 100 years later his name would appear in the WEST. Unique cane made many years ago at Rockford, Ill., the upright is a natural growth of many twigs finely cut and carved into a bundle of snakes the cross piece or handle is a fine bit of carving with an elephant's head, ivory tusks in front, and dogs head at back of hand.

Large wooden mortar made from a huge ferrot or knurl presented me by a gentleman whose grandfather had it from the Indians.

Some of your readers remember the old tuning forks. I have an article that antedates their use, a pitch pipe, used like a whistle upon drawing out a slide to the desired letter of the scale the required key is obtained.

A few fine coins and medals, old tin lantern, foot stove, old hair trunk, warming pan, hatchet, etc. Flint lock guns, beautiful sword carried at Bennigton, also finely carved powder horn carried at Plattsbury and on which is cut a plan of

the town. Deed signed by Col. Ira Allen. Many old books, oldest 1744. Original newspapers containing obituaries of Washington, Lincoln, Grant and many other notables. Thos. Jefferson's card, size about 3 by 4 inches, oval, "Thos. Jefferson presents his compliments to Judge Cushing and requests the favor of his company to dinner on Friday February 8 at half after three o'clock. Jan. 31, '93. The favor of an answer is requested."

One of the best things in the collection is a patent issued March 6th, 1835 and signed by the President in a strong bold hand "Andrew Jackson," also signed by John Forsyth, secretary of state and B. F. Butler (not old "Ben") Atty. General. It bears the old broad-spread eagle seal of the U. S. I understand that the signature of John Forsyth is particularly valuable. Wood end tin sand boxes used before blotting paper. Old wooden water (ahem) bottle. Quaint old pewter and china pitchers and plates, one a little blue plate of the so much sought for and valuable, representing old castle Garden, N.Y. Dagger cane. Peculiar hand made wash board only eight inches wide, evidently seen much service.

Pair ancient skates. Sheriffs old "nippers" "put the nippers on him." Old time knife fork and spoon in two piece fit together carried during Civil war.

Confederate cap box picked up in front of Petersburg. Hand made flax breaker. Wooden bit-stock and old bits.

Just one of the best things a doctor's medicine bag carried on arm when on horse back, bottles one side, packages in other as used. Shingles 150 years old from house in this town, three feet long half inch thick except where about half worn away.

Ladies very old high backed comb.

gunch of first matches made and original old coarse paper wrapper. A straight beautiful sword fish's sword about three feet long. Shoe and knee buckles.

Malitia, U. S. army and old "rough and ready" buttons. Odd looking glass, strange looking spread eagle, flags and implements of war.

MINERALOGY

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept.—Forest Gaines]

Digressing awhile from our purely mineralogical affairs, we will give a short description of the immense plaster cast of a prehistoric diplodocus, recently presented by Andrew Carnegie to the British Museum. The cast was ordered by King Edward and was completed by the palaeontologists of the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh. The cast is nearly eight feet in length and seventeen feet to the top of the shoulders. The bones of the original beast which were excavated in Wyoming by Prof. J. B. Hatcher of the Institute are still packed in boxes, because a room, large enough for the accommodation of the complete frame, is not yet available.

The interest of King Edward was aroused last year, when he visited Mr. Carnegie at Skibo Castle. Mr. Carnegie has the walls of his den decorated with drawings of the fossils which have been collected by the museum explorers. The picture of the diplodocus particularly impressed his majesty and Mr. Carnegie on hearing his interest promptly offered to make a cast for the British museum, which offer was at once gratefully accepted by the king. Hence

the plaster model recently shipped.

Tourists residing in the old city of St. Augustine, Florida, are often led to wonder at the peculiar material composing many of the old Spanish houses. On closer examination it may be seen to be a peculiar formation of limestone, composed entirely of rather minute shells, which have been pretty well cemented together by the weathering process. The most of this strange formation comes from a small island near the coast, and but comparatively, little of it is now quarried as the more modern structures of St. Augustine are built of a more firm material. Specimens of the limestone or "coquina," as it is called mineralogically, are of great interest in the cabinet. They also afford a good field for microscopic study.

From many of the cavern of northern Arkansas and southern Missouri, have been brought delicate stalactites, of great beauty and rarity of formation. The range in size is, of course, very indefinite, and nice cabinet specimens can be found, as well as much larger ones, for other ornamental purposes. The form are arborescent, straight, tree-like, etc. This calcite is very pure and consequently the majority of the stalactites are almost pure white. It would no doubt have been crystallized, except for the pendant form in which the stalactites have originated. The editor was lately presented with some of these stalactites and values them highly on account of their enhancing beauty to the collection. Readers who desire to procure them can do so from mineral and curio dealers in the vicinity, or mayhap they have friends who are touring at some time or other in the neighborhood, and can procure them more easily. Anyhow they make a handsome addition to the cabinet.

Indian Arrow Heads **BY VIRGINIA BAKER**

At a very early period man acquired a knowledge of the use of the bow and arrow. In different sections of the earth these weapons were variously constructed, through all employed in warfare and the chase. The arrows of the Philistines—who were extremely skilful archers—differed as materially from those of the ancient Greeks as the stone implements of the American savage differed from the “cloth yard shafts” of “Robin Hood’s merry men.”

The North American Indian arrow head is one of the most interesting types encountered by the student. These arrowheads are like human faces. Occasionally a close resemblance may be traced between one and another, but it is well nigh impossible to discover two exactly alike. Each has what may be termed its own individuality.

The name arrowhead, used in its broadest sense, is applied to a class of objects including implements which may be quite as appropriately termed spears or knives. Indeed it is difficult to determine, in some instances, the difference between an arrow-head and a spear, or a spear and a knife, since all three varieties of objects are modeled after the same pattern. Some collectors aver that “any implement exceeding two inches in length should be classified as a spear,” but this is a rule too arbitrary to be closely followed. Beside spears and knives there are the so-called—“leaf shaped implements” which by many are also indiscriminately termed arrowheads, though the best authorities believe them to have been used either as knives or spears or as ceremonial objects.

Mr. Thomas Wilson (See “A study

of Prehistoric Anthropology” by Thomas Wilson, Smithsonian Report, 1888) divides arrowheads into four distinct classes, which are, in turn subdivided. Class 1 is denominated “leaf shaped” and includes “thin and finely shaped implements of the form of a laurel leaf, elliptical and pointed at both ends,” other forms thicker and ruder than these,” some more oval and the bases not pointed but either straight or convex;” and still others, described as “long, thin blades with nearly straight edges more like a dagger or poigward,” and having bases either convex, straight, or concave.

Class 2 is designated “triangular,” and includes “all forms approaching a triangle, whether the bases or edges be convex, straight, or concave;” while Class 3, termed “stemmed,” comprehends three forms, the lozenge-shaped, the shouldered but not barbed and the shouldered and barbed, the bases of nearly all these forms being convex, and “smooth as though they had been worn.” Class 4, styled “peculiar forms,” embraces all those having “such peculiarities as distinguish them from all other classes,” such as beveled edges, and bifurcated stems. It is almost needless to say that these “peculiar forms” are the least common of any, and therefore greatly prized by the collector.

While stone of various degrees of hardness was the substance generally employed by the North American arrowmaker, the Indians occasionally constructed arrowheads of other material. Soon after the arrival of the “Mayflower” in Cape Cod Bay a party of the Pilgrims, who were exploring the coast, were attacked by a band of savages whom, however, they succeeded in repulsing.

An account of this skirmish, given in "Mourt's Relation," contains the following description of the arrow-heads used by the Indians on that occasion.

"We took up eighteen of their arrows which we have sent to England by Master Jones (captain of the Mayflower (some whereof were headed with brass, others with harts horns, and other with eagle's claws."

In some sections of North America stone and shells were utilized in the construction of arrowheads. The Indians of the northwest coast used bone, flint, shell, and copper, until the introduction of iron by the European caused them to generally discard these materials in favor of a substance so admirably adopted to their needs.

The Indian attached his arrow, or spear head, or knife to a shaft or handle by a cord or by means of bitumen or some other adhesive substance. Instead of handles strips of skin were sometimes wrapped around the knives. The Hupae of California used certain knives as charms or talismans which they wore or paraded in their ceremonial dances. Mr. Powers in his "Tribes of California" says, "These are not properly knives, but jewelry for sacred purpose, passing current also as money."

The amateur collector of arrowheads soon learns that there are "arrowheads and arrowheads." But in order to become an expert he must consult the best authorities upon anthropology. His eye must be trained to distinguish the difference between a chipped and a polished implement. He must, if ignorant of geology or mineralogy, study those branches of science to some extent, or he will not be able to tell an obsidian arrowhead from one of quartz, or to detect the characteristics wherein jasper

differs from flint. He ought to visit museums where large collections of arrows are properly classified for the purpose of drawing comparisons between those and the specimens he has collected. Finally he should carefully label each arrowhead that comes into his possession with the name of the locality where it was discovered, and record in a note-book all facts obtainable regarding the tribe of Indians by whom supposedly it was used.

If the collector resides in a section where arrow-heads abound, he may be able to make a satisfactory collection of local specimens. By far the most interesting collection, however, is what may be termed an "all round" one. It is not a hard task to procure a few specimens from several different localities, and the variety thus afforded is both pleasing and instructive.

NATIONS PARTED BY FENCE.

The longest fence in the world is probably that which has been erected by the Erie Cattle Company along the Mexican border. It is seventy-five miles in length, and separates exactly for its entire distance the two republics of North America. The fence was built to keep the cattle from running across the border and falling an easy prey to the Mexican cow punchers. Although it cost a great deal of money, it is estimated that cattle enough will be saved in one year to more than pay for it. It is a barbed wire fence, with mesquite and cottonwood poles, and for the entire length of it runs as straight as the crow flies.

The WEST'S advertising columns are a pretty good catalog from which to make a selection.

The Collector's
Ganer House.
BY VERNA WESTON HANWAY

The person who is a chronic reader a book-worm has great facilities for collecting all sorts of notes upon the many different forms of collecting. These particular notes are gathered through this means and are from many different sources. The author also intends to have her "say" under this heading upon current topics. These notes will appear from time to time as occasion will permit. The aim is to keep up with the latest developments in the philatelic, curio and camera world.

The following story is told by a missionary from Burmah who was recently entertained by the Rev. A. B. Simpson, president of the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

"I addressed a boys' school last month," the missionary said. "I told the boys everything interesting and uplifting I could think of about the Burmese. They were appreciative and attentive.

"Perhaps, I said at the end, there are some things I have not made clear. Are there some questions you would like to ask? No one interrogated me then; but after the meeting was over an intelligent looking boy approached timidly, as I was leaving the platform "I — I would like", he began, and then hesitated.

"Go on my lad," said I. "There is some question you would like to ask, I suppose."

"Yes sir," said the boy. "I wanted to know if you had any foreign postage stamps you could give a fellow."

While there is no denying the fact that the film loaded camera is by

far the simplest and easiest to handle, yet the lack of opportunity to focus views before exposing the sensitized film has led to some preferring the plate camera. They prefer the extra labor of inserting plate holders and drawing the sides with the assurance that the picture is in focus and exactly what the photographer wishes. A film camera which can be focussed has now been brought out. There is on top of the camera case proper an auxiliary casing of such shape as to contain two rollers now which to wind the film. This auxiliary casing is secured to the hinged top of the camera and can be thrown upward on top of the camera which enables the artist to focus the view on the ground plate glass at the rear. As soon as this is accomplished the film holder is inserted again. Then the light proof front plate is drawn and the camera is ready to make the exposure. This method is much more simple than it sounds.

One of the most curious results of geological explorations is the discovery of "buried landscapes." Parts of the former face of the earth are after centuries covered entirely over with later deposits, but yet retain much of their former original features that the geologist readily can, in his mind reconstruct the scenes that presented themselves to the eyes of man centuries ago.

Buried landscapes often exist under countries now densely inhabited. It is shown through recent investigation that one such lies under what is known as the Charnwood forest in England. The rocky projections seen there are said by eminent geologists to be the peaks and aretes of a buried mountain chain belonging to the red sandstone period. Several different phases in the history of this landscape have been traced.

At one time it contained salt lakes and desert expanses. In its modern form it is a pastoral region, with barren, stony tracts and rocky eminences where the mountains project through the soil.

A Cherokee from the Indian territory, John Crowfoot, has unearthed some valuable Indian relics in Gate Co., Georgia, within the last few months, which, he is shipping to the Smithsonian Institution. He made a series of excavations along the Mississippi in De Soto County, some months ago following the route along which De Soto and his hardy band passed. He was provided with sundry, queer looking maps and charts which he said gave the clues regarding the location of the relics desired; it is said that in every case these charts proved correct. Pots, bowls, vases, pipes, tomahawks, arrowheads, etc. were dug up in large quantities. The finds were especially valuable in the region of Lake Cormorant.

The Indians' methods are very unique. He uses a long probe and penetrates each grave and then he digs down at the head of the corpse, finding the relics always around the skull. He claims that the earthen ware vessels were made by the mound builders, and it was from this race that other tribes learned to make pottery.

The president of the Heidelberg chamber of Commerce has just presented to the University library a gift which justly merits the place it will occupy at that seat of learning. The gift is composed of a probably unique collection of Arab papyri, numbering about 1000 pieces, some of them going back to about the time

of the first year of Hegira. Several of them throw an entirely new light upon the Saacen domination in Egypt. But the most interesting is a curious biography of Mahomet himself.

The son of Baron Alfred De Rothschild, Walter owns the largest private history collection in the world. A specialty is birds and fleas! Last August he offered a sum of \$5000 for a certain flea who makes life unbearable for the Arctic fox. He has not procured it yet. Perhaps it would be well for this collector of fleas to go to the Pacific coast. They make life particularly unbearable for the human race there.

It is evident that many of the journals across the water do not love our poor, dear St. Louis Exposition stamps. The "Philatelic Journal of India" says: "We hope the United States government has had enough of commemoration issues. The St. Louis set consists of five values only (1, 2, 3, 5, and 10c), but they are perfectly inexcusable. Artistically too they are poor ugly things. We are delighted to hear that this attempted fraud on philatelists has turned out what our American cousins term a "frost." Perhaps this cold reception will save a repetition of these ridiculous issues." By the way, I wonder why so many of the foreign journals are so fond of quoting "American slang" which is not to be found in America. As a matter of truth the government never thought of stamp collectors in connection with the issue. The stamps were issued to draw attention to the fair, and were only issued after considerable influence was brought to bear by those who really thought it would benefit the fair.

The Woman with a Hobby

BY L. N.

We know of many women who have made a success in life, by their own individual efforts, thrown on their own resources in every way to develop and maintain a business.

Consequently, we know of many women today, who are specialists in any one certain vocation, thereby concentrating all their energies in one direction to better aid them in their chosen vocation to achieve success.

We know of lady doctors, nurses, merchants, lawyers, farmers, artists, publishers and of course also collectors and dealers of novelties, coins and relics of antiquity, with success, for a woman's mind is by nature very intuitive, sensitive and quick to see actual worth, truth and beauty in nature's products of all kinds.

Lizzie Nagel, the subject of our sketch whose photo appears in an advertisement of the WEST became interested in relics of past history when she was yet a child. Her grandmother an industrious old lady had many queer things, in a choice collection of old linens which the old lady herself helped to cultivate and preparing the 'flax' from the sowing of the seed to the spinning of it, into the much noted beautiful linen towels, sheets and table covers of which she has yet some fine specimens in good condition, over 100 years old, of which she can give the entire history from seed to weaving time. Her native state is Pennsylvania where she has dealt in antiques, old copper cents and half cents, thousands of pieces of all kinds of old china, mostly historical of the very best scenes and subjects, of very choice prices, all of which have been disposed of for the ever seeking active and alert relic hunters soon learned of her large

collection and called many times for choice pieces of it until nearly all were disposed of, excepting a few pieces of china, coins, and linens, as advertised in the WEST.

She has since become interested in literature of the New Thought and Occult Science, in which she is dealing now, and having found the WEST a good medium before, she concluded to speak to the thinking, intelligent and investing readers and hobbyists of the WEST again through her advertisement on another page of the WEST and we feel certain that all our readers who are interested in Occult Sciences will correspond with the advertiser and they will be treated courteously and be pleased with the books she offers.

SAFFRON FLOWERS ADVANCING.

Prices of American saffron flowers have been advanced daily for the last week, and the bullish members of the market say that conditions warrant a continuance of the upward movement until values are about three times as high as at present. The new crop in Mexico is reported a failure, the predicted yield being about 2000 to 3000 pounds against 20,000 to 25,000 last season. Thus far only six bales of the new crop have been received in this market and they were quickly sold.—New York Times.

Don't try to advertise too many things in one issue unless you have a page. You must think up quite a lot of arguments sometimes in personal to make a sale close, so why should you expect more of your advertising.

Coins that have lost their original lustre but show no wear are called fine coins. They may be tarnished or blackened, but must show no nicks or scratches.

***The Soapstone Pots and
The Sandstone Pestles
of Rhode Island***
By C. ABBOTT DAVIS

The articles in WEST by Mr. Oswald A. Bauer upon the Archaeology of New York have interested me exceedingly and I judge must be of value to any student of ethnology.

Now if Mr. Bauer were to come 250 miles farther east, he would find there still different conditions for the Narragansetts used very little baked pottery but preferred the crude heavy soap stone dishes. Many people dub these mortars but they were far too soft and fragile for rough usage.

There is a rock just on the edge of the city of Providence called Indian Ledge or Soapstone Quarry where I recently counted the spots left by the Indians where pots were cut off, and these scars today number an even hundred. But where are the pots? We have in the museum, about a score which vary in size from 4x6 inches to 12x18 inches and weigh from ten to over a hundred pounds. Nearly all have two crude handles on the ends and are about half done proves that they completed the exterior first. A second nearly completed proves that they kept the bottom of the interior level as they worked that out.

The hammer-stones used in making these pots, are still found, but even they are getting scarcer every day. They are mostly made of a green flinty-chlorite from a nearby ledge; and always fit the hand. They are about 6x3x2 inches and often have a place chipped for thumb and forefinger.

The gentleman who owns the ledge carefully picked up and laid away over a hundred of these hammers when some of his Dago help managed to run them all through the neighboring stone crusher, which shows the

love our new Americans have for the original America. However I managed to dig up about 30 of these stones to preserve in our museum.

The Franklin Society has one big hammer stone which would require two hands to use. The only one I have yet seen of this kind.

Very few fragment of Burned Pottery have been discovered in this state, which leads me to believe that these were imported.

As to Pestles, the common shape is a long cylinder rounded on both ends. The length varies from— to— inches, and diameter from 2 to 3 inches. We have 55 of this type and they are all well made out of a kind of grit or sandstone. There are 4 varieties from this type, one resembles a big plummet and weighs about 15 lbs; the second is a typical western one short handles with wide flat end the third looks like a policeman's billy and the fourth resembles a bolo.

My private opinion is that the mortars were holes torn in the solid rock near camp and I have observed several such places. Miss Virginia Baker drove with me over to the "National grinding mill" of the Wampanoags at Warren, R. I. where corn was ground in the grooves in a big ledge by means of a grindstone propelled by a stick through a hole in the center. This spot was pointed out about 30 years ago by Big Thunder who is still chief of the Penobscot tribe of Indians, near Old Town, Maine.

A few years ago I visited this tribe and they claim that some of their ancestors were the Wampanagos driven from Rhode Island. These Indians are skillful basket makers. I still have two of their baskets which are too small to go on the tip of ones little finger. Miss Baker will tell about the rest of our trip and the discovery of Hoetown.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Welgel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1802 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Department of Mineralogy — Forrest Gaines Glendive, Mont.

Department of Conchology (Marine, Atlantic Division)—J. Lewis Wheeler, 30 Lenox Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Conchology (Marine Pacific Division)—Department of Entomology—Prof. C. Abbott Davis, 131 Elmwood Ave., Providence, R. I.

Department of Conchology (Terrestrial Division)—Charles Russell Orcutt, 365 12th St., San Diego, Cal.

Department of War Relics—A. H. Bailey, Superintendent, Marietta, Ga.

Department of Numismatics—E. L. Bangs, 1401 Clarkson St., Baltimore, Md.

Department of Botany—C. R. Orcutt, Superintendent, San Diego, Cal.

Department of Archaeology—Arthur B. Coover, Superintendent, Roxabell, O.

Department of Birds and Mammals—Department of Geology—F. A. Brown, East Peru, Iowa.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month.

All honest collectors, whatever be their chosen branch of collecting, except stamps, are invited to join. We do not solicit stamp collectors as members as there are so many good philatelic societies now in existence, but collectors of stamps who collect along other lines also are invited to become members.

Free Identification Bureau for naming and classifying shells, minerals, fossils, coins, etc., for members only, in charge of a competent superintendent, will examine and name doubtful specimens submitted to them by members.

Fellow members:—

Your attention is called to the fact of electing new officers for the year 1905. Each and every member is earnestly requested to name and vote for some member of the A. S. C. C. to fill the offices of president, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Vice presidents, secretary, and treasurer. Send your vote at

once by letter or postal card to the secretary.

NEW MEMBERS.

Jas. Boyer, Grant Center, Ia.

C. Greene, Chicago, 1533 Masonic Temple.

J. J. Rettinger, Bx. 180 Hastings, Minn.

APPLICATIONS.

A. Da Casta Gomez, 21 Third Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

D. E. Brown, Glacier, Wash.

J. Marshall Barkly, 221 Carpenter st., Cincinnati, O.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

468 W H Hyatt from Marion, Ia to 6531 Woodlawn Ave., Greenlake, Seattle, Wash.

P. O. Frykland from 30351-8th Ave So. Minneapolis, Minn., to Eddy, Romen co., Minn.

RENEWAL.

26 M Slayton, RR 17 Belding, Mich
235 W Lermond, Thomanston, Me.
524 J. M. Henderson, 13½ E State St., Columbus, Ohio.

493 Albert Everitt, Escondido, Calif.

A Grutzmacher, Mukwonago, Wis.

MISPLACED.

Our contest list. All readers who sent in MSS and Articles for contest please drop us a card giving name of article and address so we can close this up in the next number. "Too much worlds fair." We got part of it misplaced. Send by next mail to Contest Dept.

L. Brodstone Superior Nebr.

ERRATA.

Ad of Lizzie Nagel Pasedena Calif. Box number should be 541 instead of 451.

Union Souvenir Card Exchange

OFFICERS

President—H W Lintz, Hebron, Ark.
Secy-Treas—J Park Graybell, 1113 East Alameda Ave, Denver, Colo.

Dues, for U. S. 50c per year; Foreign 75c

A WORLD WIDE SOCIETY FOR ACTIVE
POSTCARD COLLECTORS.

ORGANIZED APRIL 1904

NEW MEMBERS

The following members desire exchange not only with the members of the "Union" but with anyone else anywhere.

- 58 Miss Bernadette, Hardy, Ste Petronille, Island of Orleans, P Q
- 59 H A Schwedes, 327 Bergen St. Newark, N J
- 60 H F Kile, Box 174, Santa Monica, Calif
- 61 Miss V Baker, Box 44, Warren, R I
- 62 E M Cook, Eolian, Texas
- 63 Karl Lewis, 130 D Honmura Road, Yokohama, Japan
- 64 Chas Hargreaves, 1729 M St. Lincoln, Neb.
- 65 Mrs Geo Baum, 131 Haledon Ave, Paterson, N J
- 66 Miss Pearl U Davis, Box 74, Stockton, Calif.
- 67 Roy Mondorf, 634 E Middle St, Hanover, Pa
- 68 Everett H Towle, 36 State St, Hammond, Ind.
- 69 Mrs Emma E Lintz, Hebron, Ark.
- 70 V Mozian, 45 Beaver St, New York, N Y
- 71 John H Ross, Orange Walk, Brit Honduras, C A
- 72 J T Warren, 9½ Tejon St, Colorado Spgs, Col.
- 73 Emil E Anderson, Paxton, Ill.
- 74 Miss Verna Hanway, Box 156, Dallas, Pa.
- 75 J R Hegenbart, 923 Market St, LaCrosse, Wis.
- 76 B Soule, Esq, 28 Clinton St, Cambridge, Mass.
- 77 Andre Perlet, 50 Rue Molitor, Paris XVI, France
- 78 S S Wineman, Oxnard, Calif.
- 79 Howard E Baker, 3225 Wallace St, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 80 Ed Barrett, 15 Marr St, Fond du Lac, Wis.
- 81 Chas P Marsh, 16 Milford Ave, Newark, N J
- 82 Edna B Reed, 310-15th St, Rock Island, Ill.
- 83 E M Carnwright, 16 Mt Pleasant Ave, Newark, N J
- 84 Atlas Stamp Co, Sta S, Brooklyn, N Y
- 85 Carl E W Welcome, Bx 302, Westfield, Mass.

I take pleasure in again greeting the members of the "Union" and hope they will excuse the delay in publishing report as same was unavoidable.

With this issue of the WEST I wish to announce my resignation as secretary of the "Union Souvenir Card Exchange" as on account of lack of time I can no longer attend to the duties of that office. I am also authorized by Mr. Adolph Selige

to announce his resignation as president of the U. S. C. E. Mr. J. Park Graybell of Denver, Colo., has now taken charge of the "Union" and hereafter will act as secretary of same while I will act as president.

Almost all of the readers of the WEST have heard of Mr. Graybell and know him as an enterprising souvenir card dealer and a man of push and energy.

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J
Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg Lithgow, New York.
Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Austin, Texas.

Secy-Treas. Report.

NEW MEMBERS.

- 307 Miss Hattie R. Stratton,
Chattanooga, Tenn.

RESIGNED.

- 278 J. A. D. Park, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Fellow members:—

This is the proper time to join a stamp society. A person thinking of joining a society should consider first the benefits. In this society you can use a Sales Dept., which is second to none in this country and which is run in an honest basis. Send for application blank and take advantage of a good opportunity.

Respectfully, W. P. Kelley,
3222 Peery Ave. Kansas City.

Don't try to crowd a whole circular into an inch advertisement and don't try to sell a thousand dollar coin with a two-dollar advertisement.

THE METROPOLITAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

President.....	H. D. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
Vice-President.....	J. A. Solomon, East Greenwich R. I.
Sec'y-Treasurer.....	F. A. Mueller, Peake, Nebr.
Sales Sup't.....	L. V. Cass, Frederick, Md.
Exchange Supt.....	G. W. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
Attorney.....	J. S. Robertson, St. Thomas, Ont.
Counterfeit Detector.....	Rev. R. Von Pirch, Berlin, Ont.
Librarian.....	Joel H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.
Trustees {	A. D. Blair, Elmira, N. Y.
	J. A. D. Park, Buffalo, N. Y.
	R. F. Baldwin, Chicago, Ill.

REPRESENTATIVES

Canada.....	Fred Cruse, Walkerville, Ont.
Great Britain.....	W. W. Webster, 11 Leonard St. Derby.
Costa Rica.....	O. P. Nunes, Box 15, Port Limon
New Zealand.....	Robert Brown, Denniston.
Guatemala.....	A. L. Godoy, Guatemala City.
Australia.....	H. W. Shelton, Castlemaine, Victoria

SECRETARYS' REPORT.

Fellow-members:—

I herewith hand you my report for this month and although I cannot report as many new members as last month still we are growing. Remember that the little grains make the pleasant land and in this manner each new individual member is helping to make us the finest and foremost American representative society. Everyone lend us their assistance and we will make our society the greatest benefactor to the philatelic world. Our record for new members is unparalleled and members also find out quickly that our benefits are worth more than any of the other societies, so many of which are only semi-existent. It costs very little and pays very well. A trial will convince. We are always glad to enroll responsible philatelists.

Our departments are all in first-class condition and it is your own fault if you do not reap the benefits. Our exchange department (the only one of a like character existent) contains numbers of fine stamps for exchange. It desires a large quantity of U. S. and Canada stamps cataloguing from 3 to 50c apiece. Sales department has many fine bargains at the command of the associates and we would be glad to put your name on a circuit. Write the different superintendents. Mr. Ed S. Estoppey, of Lausanne, Switzerland has sent in \$100 worth of fine stamps for our departments this month.

Our elections come off on December 15th and in order to get their vote in to me in proper time the foreign members are advised to fill out their choice on a slip and mail it to me. Select names from this month's nominations. Thanking you all for your earnest endeavors, I am

Very fraternally yours,

F. A. Mueller, Secy-Treas.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS:

Thomas Burnett, 513 N. 6 St., Camden, N. J.	—Proposed By—
W. A. Imbler, 1095 W. 46th St., Los Angeles, Cal.	Munger
John Van Ness, 283 St. Marks Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.	Munger
U. S. Moore, Lomox, Ill.	Crandall
Chas. A. Rybolt, Mulberry, O.	Solomon
Chas. Morrey, 1732 E. 3rd St., Dayton, O.	Solomon
Wm. F. Herron, Pender, Nebr.	Mueller
F. A. Laycock, Billing Road, Northampton, England	Cass
S. N. Hawkins, Jr., 102 Fla Ave Tampa, Fla.	Munger
	Solomon

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF M. P. A.—NEW MEMBERS.

G. I. Engelke, 628-33 St., Milwaukee, Wis.Munger
A. J. Waters, Inglewood, Taranaki, New ZealandHoward

DROPPED

Ben Solomon J. C. Auf der Heide. T. A. Remoli

CORRECTIONS.

Emil Spinony in last month's report should have read proposed by Munger instead of Solomon and Rudolph Janicke was proposed by Mueller and not Oakden as the paper had it.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

From August 26th to October 5th 1904.

Receipts.

Recieved from dues and initiations\$3.95
On hand balance from August 26th10.50

\$14.45

Disbursements.

Burnett for advertising.....\$.80
McKeel's Weekly for prize.....50
Kirby for 500 special envelopes1.35
Rceipt book for society.....10
Brodstone for September report.....2.50

\$5.25

Balance on hand October 5th.....9.20

\$14.45

LIBRARIANS' REPORT.

Member's—

I have received from Th. Lemaire of Paris a nucleus of our library. Would solicit contributions from all members. Send me any philatelic papers you have that you are willing to give to our library. Mr. Munger has promised to send a large bunch and others seem willing. I trust we can make one of the best philatelic libraries in America. Next month I will give a list of what is in department. All members can have free use of department by paying postage solely. Send me your papers.

Respectfully yours,

Huguenot, Ga.

Joel H. DuBose, Librarian.

PRIZE DRAWINGS.

Our new plan has become very popular. You secure one chance for each new member you get and this gives you one chance in the drawings. It pays to get members. For November we offer as first prize a copy of Scott's 1905 catalogue, second prize will be a year's subscription to Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, while for a third prize we offer a 25c due-bill. Members are solicited to contribute stamps, philatelic papers or money to offer as prizes. This month our president contributes a packet of 25 different unused British colonials to the fifth number drawn out. The September drawings held 40 chances and the prizes were won as follows by these members.

First prize—Walter V. Nugent who held the lucky number 138.

Second prize—Leon C. Vass who possessed number 123.

Third prize—John Solomon who had secure number 152.

NOMINATIONS.

Below we give a partial list of nominations for the December elections. Ballots will be duly mailed to members. A word of advice however is given to the foreign members in our Secretary's letter. Vote for four trustees from below list. Further nominations next month.

President—H D Munger, John Solomon
Secy-Treas—F A Mueller, H D Munger
Sales Supt—L V Cass, A D Blair
Fraud Investigator—W V Nugent, H Wendt
Librarian—J H DuBose, R J Beck
Trustees—L T Brodstone, Fred Cruse, H A Chapman,
Geauque, A D Blair, L Crandall.

Vice President—John Solomon, Walter V Nugent
Inter-Secy—J A D Park, R W Geauque
Exchange Supt—G W Munger, J R Oakden
Counterfeit Detector—G C Asby, R Van Pirsch
Attorney—A D Blair, J S Robertson
Official Organ—The WEST, Adhesive

Convention Seat—Niagara Falls, N Y; Chicago, Ill; Minneapolis, Minn.

PERSONALS.

The M. P. A. expects to hold a big meeting at Niagara Falls next year. This is an ideal spot for a summer vacation and it is hoped that a large number will attend. Already several have pledged to do so as this site will undoubtedly be chosen for the convention seat. Brother Park is getting out a circular about the place.

The Metropolis is missed by many but the WEST is acting as a good substitute. Drop a line to Cass and get a circuit sent to you. He has a lot of good ones. Great bargains are offered in this department.

The M. P. A. is growing like a boom town. Keep up the good work and we will raise ourselves above them all yet, fellow members.

Exchange superintendent has a lot of good stamps on hand to exchange with members. Would like to hear from all same. There is no better way to increase your collection and no cost. Try it.

If you are not a membre of the M. P. A. you ought to join at once as any member could tell of our worthiness. It costs little and pays well. Write officers for a blank.

M. P. A. is running a big ad in member Estoppey's French paper published at Lausanne and it is bringing results.

M. P. A. officers have all been supplied with new letterheads. They are a fine production from the press of T. O. Young.

Member Neave is issuing a paper from Natal.

J. A. D. Park is back at Pottstown, Pa., where he is employed as a tutor of Romance languages in a private school.

President Munger was recently elected to the the position of literary editor of one of the monthly papers at Corning.

Well it is up to you to join.

We wish to keep the members informed and any bits of information will be gladly received by any officer. Shall increase these notes each month.

BUSINESS MANAGERS SAY

On account of the poor health of H. D. Munger and his inability to give proper time to the work he has sold out the "Metropolis" to us. The Metropolis was a well and favorably known philatelic publication which enjoyed a large clientele of prominent collectors. This paper had a large circulation and enjoyed second class privileges. Its untimely demise will be regretted by all. Subscriptions will be filled out by the WEST and this will add several thousand new names to our list. Advertisers will please take note of this fact as we already have a bigger circulation than has been and again we say "It pays the man who uses the WEST. With the suspension of the "Metropolis" the Metropolitan Philatelic Society has accepted the WEST as their official organ. This society is a strong one with numerous benefits and growing at present time more rapidly than any other American Philatelic Society. The benefits given by this society are well worth the low cost and although it is not yet two years old it has nearly 300 members and growing at a rapid rate as this month's list will show. It would pay you to join. Mr. Munger will hereafter give his time solely as much as possible to the M. P. A. and the WEST advertisers should get ad copy in early for next number.

We are especially pleased to welcome the Brown Stamp Co., of Omaha,, Nebr., to our advertising columns as both the editor and the publisher of the WEST have been personally acquainted with its president, Frank Brown, for some twelve or fourteen years. Mr. Brown's

knowledge of stamps, combined with his business training make prophesy of success for his company seem safe and reasonable. The Brown Co., has pleasant quarters on the ground floor, directly opposite the main entrance to the Army headquarters, Department of Missouri or (as the building is popularly called in Omaha) the "old postoffice," 15th and Dodge streets. We hope to have some MSS from him hereafter.

A new hobby is rapidly coming to the front. Hundreds of collectors are learning Taxidermy and making collections of birds, animals, etc. This is doubtless the most profitable art that can be employed as a side line. Taxidermy is being taught with much success by mail by the Northwestern school of Taxidermy, Omaha, Nebr. They send catalog free on request.

"Best offered yet."

We offer with your subscription to the WEST the leading exponent of philately, a year's membership to the M. P. A. up to Jan. 1906 for only 50c. Send money or P O order or stamps to L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr. The Metropolitan Philatelic Association is the most progressive American society for collectors having made the largest gain of all societies the past 2 years. Can also offer if you wish for 75c the largest and best Stamp Weekly Mekeel Weekly Stamp News regular price 50c it and the WEST for 75c or if you wish the finest catalogue in the English language Gibbons can offer this years catalogue and the WEST for the same price. We have many special prices on leading papers if you wish to save from 10 per cent to half. It will pay you to write to the publisher at once.

Largest Stamp Society in America
STAMP COLLECTOR'S
Protective Assoc'n
OF AMERICA

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandlee, Roanoke Va.
 Vice-President—W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
 Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr
 Sales Supt.—E. Spinony, box 443 Great Falls, Mont.

Auc. Mgr.—H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.
 Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn
 Trustees—Wilkinson, Brown, Hopson, Omaha
 Official Organ—The WEST.

Any stamp collector of good recommendation may become a member by applying to secretary. Benefits: Mutual co-operation for the protection of honest collectors; for the furtherance of philately in general; annihilation of fraud and schemers by exposing them; collecting, investigating and assisting members in any way. Become a member and help us. With every complaint send 4c for purpose of investigation or adjusting your claim if possible to do so. A great many will pay rather than be published

Report of Sales Department.

Fellow-members:—

With this report I tender my resignation as Sales Supt., of our society. I regret to do this but business is now so heavy that I have no longer any time left for stamps. All books will be retired by December 1; and all members now making up books should hold them until my successor is appointed. On another sheet you will find my convention report. Thanking you all for your kind patronage and wishing the society a prosperous year I remain,

Sincerely yours

W. P. Kelly

3222 Peery Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

E. Spinony of Great Falls, Mont. Bx 443, has been appointed sales manager; vs Kelly resigned. Drop him a line for books. EChandlee, Pres

FRAUDS.

Below we give a list of various kinds. This list will be further supplemented each month and we would ask all our readers to furnish the names of dishonest persons in order that we may publish them to protect others. Publishers waive all responsibility for names given here. This month we head the list with well known and dangerous ones. One of our readers supplied us with the fol-

lowing. Harry W. Armstrong, of 108 E. Sandusky St., O., of the firm of H. W. Armstrong & Co., consisting of himself only. Published an extensively advertised paper, we have not seen more than one number.

Harry W. Armstrong, 108 E. Sandusky St., Findlay, O.

J. Clarke, 296 Gilmour St., Ottawa, Canada.

Alfred Jayasingle, Trinity College, Kandy, Ceylon.

Lionel Louenstark, box 267, Bulawayo, South Africa.

Sefano Scicolone, Zicata, Italy.

L. Dworak, Lecompton, Kansas (also Perry, Kansas)

W. J. Fleming, 30 Mountain St., Montreal, Canada.

Reports come in that Vanderwart, Troy, N. Y. seems to have left for places unknown, reported by A. Elgar of Iowa and Atlas Stamp Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.

W. Wheeler reports Murrart Summerside P I Canada, no reply from him since February. C. H. Wilson of Hutchinson, Kan., like to get his address. Got dealers Green of Chicago and Morey of Boston.

Wendt reports Gibbs of University, Calif.

F. Best of Toronto, Canada, 1130 Dunn st writes that he has been sick and will reply to all who have not heard from him.

W. Stempel, 144 W 113 St, N. Y. City reports A Arnold, Providence, R. I 283 Wilard Ave, would like to get his address for he has left that city.

Stone of Louisa, Va., reports that Halvorson of Wis paid him since the report was published.

Slusser of Washington says Ldeoux of Kansas City also settled with him.

Following are new members:

R Janicke, St. Joseph, Mo, R Graham, Windsor, N S Canada. F Folley, Lafayette, Ind Bx 4 C S Dods Alder Mont Bx 777 A Everitt Escandido Calif Leo Stern, E. Orange, N. J. 59 N. 14th St.



Camera Notes



Editor, F. J. CLUTTER, San Francisco

How I Develop Films By C. B. WOODWARD

I have found out by sad experience that it is a risky proposition entrusting my films to the man who makes a specialty of "developing and printing for amateurs." I have found only one house that really used some care in doing the work. Their prices are about fifty per cent higher than the regular price; a price which competition has hammered down so low that they must trust the work to boys and even then, time and care are out of the question.

I mix up two developing solutions; one a metol developer as recommended on the formula sheet for under exposure. The other is a hydroquinone developer as directed for over exposure. Cramer's Bromo-Hydro formula is fine for the purpose. In one tray I place equal parts of the two developers, calling this my normal solution. In the second tray I put the metol and in the third the hydroquinone developer. All rolls are started in the normal developer and run through for a certain length of time just sufficient to clearly indicate by what experience soon taught me, which exposures were overtimed, which correct and which under. The film is washed in clear water to stop development and the several exposures cut apart. Those that show over exposure by coming up too quickly in the normal solution are placed in the hydroquinone developer. Those that lagged behind in the normal developer are placed in the metol

solution. Those that came along nicely in the normal developer are returned to that tray and allowed to finish.

This seems rather complicated and at first glance would seem to require more time than the ordinary procedure but such is hardly the case. Even if it took a great deal longer the almost universal success of the method would make it still advisable. Of course one has the contents of the three trays to watch, once work is well under way but this is not so difficult as it would seem. One will find that it is hard to secure twelve good negatives from each roll of film by working in this way if the exposures have been anywhere near correct. It is a very incorrect exposure that will not prove amendable to this treatment. In the case of decided under exposure it is advisable to slightly warm the contents of the tray used for the metol developer. Occasionally a negative has been in this developer for some time will still lack density. In such a case I transfer it to the hydroquinone developer. Again, one placed in this latter developer may be gaining density too fast, in which case it should be placed in the metol solution.

If my fellow workers who are having too high a percentage of failures will but give this plan a fair trial I am sure that they will have less complaint to make. It is rarely that I lose an exposure while before I used to believe that eight out of each roll of twelve exposures was a good average.



American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.

Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
shipcard sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.

Ones marked x wish to exchange
souvenir post cards.

5187 Miss Ida Rapp, St Louis, Clay-
ton Sta.

8 xR Oertel Rich Hill, Tex

6 xH Lintz, Hebron, Ark

5190 J H Stainer, St Louis, 4013
Pine St.

1 P C Kangieser, Topeka, Kan.
535 Van Buren St

2 T B Stillman Hoboken, N J,
532 River St.

3 Y Arroyon, Mexico City, Bx 2003

4 J Miller Edgewood, Ga.

5 W Muchow, Gaylord, Minn.

6 R Sullivan, Pierce, Colo.

7 E Hinsdale, Kendrick, Idaho.

8 C. J Pettit, Carlos Fla, Lee Co.

9 I Christensen, Monte Vista, Col

5200 G Fay, Grand Rapids, Minn.

1 1 P Isaccson, El Campo, Tex.

2 Mrs. S. Anderson, Geneseo, Ill.
Bx 533.

3 C. Ponfiger, Lawrence, Ks. Bx 75

4 E Robertson, Ruston, La Boys
Hall

5 H Davidson, Waterville, Me.
Bx 58.

6 C O Basset, Annapolis, Md., U.
S. Na.

7 Kate Dalby, Goodrich, Mich.

8 Dr Hattan, Peru, Ill.

9 A Waleker, New Ross, Ind.

5210 Mrs Wythe, Leadville, Colo 809
Spruce.

1 O D Diffnier, Paradise, Ariz.

2 L Vandespool, Biloixi, Miss.
Bx 197.

3 S Van Resselaer, West Orange,
N J.

4 W C Moore, Lewisburg, Ohio.

5 M Rees Palestine, Tex, Bx 204

6 C A Rowe, Hillsdale, N Y

7 H Gregg, Loomis, Wash.

8 J Walton, Sheldon, Ia. Bx. 113.

9 C Peterson, Gladstone, Mich.
Bx 374.

5220 xG B Cummings Dunedin, New
Zealand, High St care Ross &
Glending Ltd.

1 xB H Wilson, Rock Island, Ill.

2 xC E Welcome, Westfield, Mass
Bx 32.

3 xJ Straley, Bx 216, Comanche
Tex.

4 xC B Brink, DesMoines, Ia. H
P College.

5 xL Van Toor, Wis, 2301 Cold
Spring.

6 xA Berlin, Bonner Springs, Ks.

7 xA Carpenter, Wilmington, Del,
Bx 93.

8 xL Atwater, Newport, R I, Bx 62

9 xA Underwood, Rochester, N
Y, 294 Mt Hope.

5230 xB Duffey, Northampton, Mass.
55 Grand.

1 xC Hansen, Superior, Neb, Bx 48

2 xMiss C Remillard, Northamp-
ton, Mass. 25 Cherry.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member. a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

Ones marked x exchange souvenir cards.

NEW MEMBERS.

725 R Tell Red Cloud.

726 O. Wilson, Lincoln, Richards blk.

727 xG Stewart, Nickerson.

728 I Rickel, Juniata, Bx 2.

729 R Carson, Omaha.

APPLICATIONS.

x751 Chris Hanson, Bx 84, Superior.

732 F Phillips, Lincoln, 1641 M st.

734 I Nelson, Pibel.

735 R Woodruff, Grand Island.

736 B F Hill, Hastings.

737 A Wakley, Omaha, 208 S 26 Ave.

PRINTING OUT PAPER.

By R. P. Daniel, I. P. E., 647.

Those who have the time to work the shower process will find the following worth a trial. First, I must say that I have no interest in any of the firms mentioned, but am merely bestowing praise where it is due.

The process here given I have found the most satisfactory of many experiments and after two years my prints made by this method are as bright as when just finished.

Sensitiizng Bath.

Nitrate Silver Crystals, 80 grains

Citric Acid " 22 grains

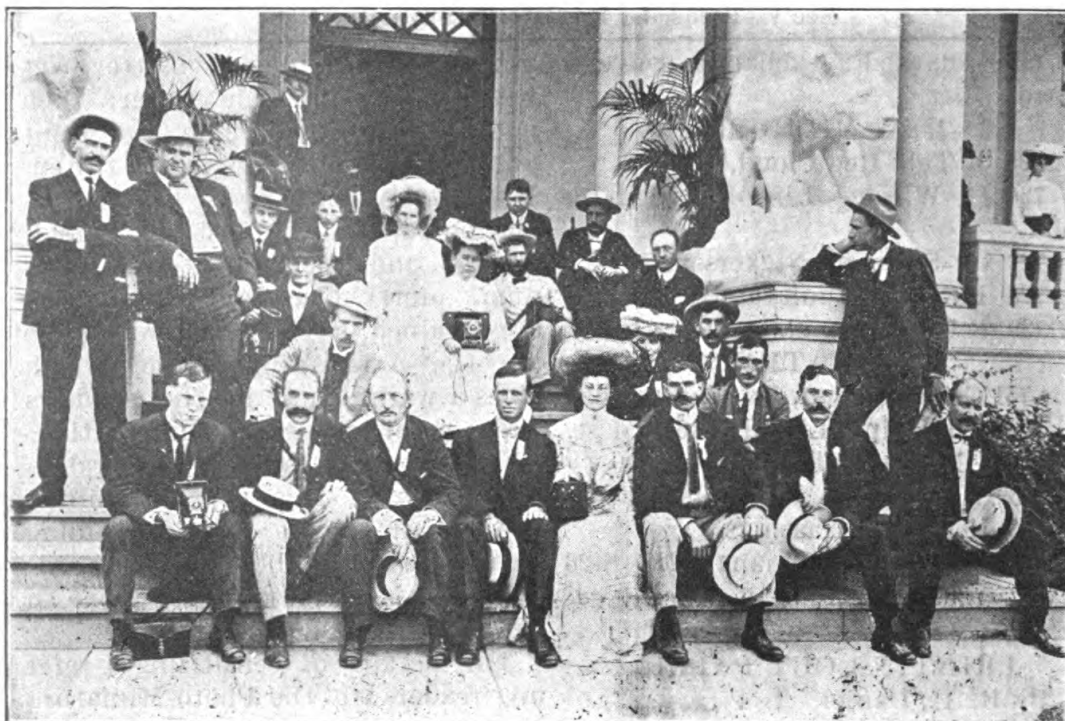
Distilled Water 1 ounce

Mix and make a solution.

Make up a quantity of this, say ten or twenty ounces. Use a clean, shallow tray, and float the paper on the bath for about a minute, or until limp. Clemmons Arrowroot paper (made by Anthony & Scovill and sold for 90 cents per dozen sheets 22x28) is the kind to use. When dry, the paper should be fumed a few imnutes

in a box containing a blotter wet with strong ammonia water; then put in the printing frame and print until the high lights are tinted. Wash tone and fix just like Aristo-platino paper. If toned with gold, washed and then toned with platinum, pretty black and white effects are obtained. A shorter way is to use the Aristo Single Toner, which gives a warm black in the shadows and requires less manipulation, which, to my mind, is preferable. The stock of this paper is thinner and requires more care in handling than some others, but one of the advantages is that it is not prone to curl in washing.

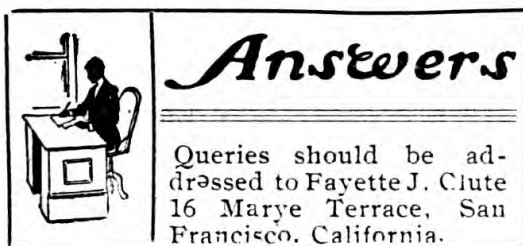
For details of sensitizing I refer my readers to the Photo-Miniature No. 21: Albumen and Plain Printing. After trying several of the methods and formulae therein mentioned, as well as others obtained elsewhere, I seledied the above process as the most satisfactory for best results, least expense, and easiest work. Messrs. Anthony & Scovill furnish full instructions for working the Clemmons paper, but I have not found them as satisfactory a my own. Still, I must insist that it does not pay to size and salt paper. No amateur can do it half as well as it is done by machinery in the Clemmons Arrowroot process, and price at which it is sold places it within the reach of all. The large sheets can be cut to the required size. I get a gross from each dozen, making prints $4\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$, which is so near 5x7, and but few negatives of that size will give good prints without sacrificing some part of the view.—The Photographic Exchange.



Some of the Officers and Members of the National Association of Amateur Photographers of America, who were present on July 27th, Amateur Photographers Day at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, when the organization was effected. This association is beneficial to all amateur Photographers whether you are a beginner or active amateur. Full particulars will be furnished upon request to the Secretary William Burton, St. Louis, Mo.

DAYLIGHT DEVELOPMENT.

Lumiere and Seyewetz have been experimenting with a view to finding the most suitable coloring matter with which to color either the solution or the plate during daylight development, and for the latter they find nothing better than what is known as Crocein scarlet 3B, and at present being exploited as "Coxin," its use for that purpose having been patented by J. N. Ludwig. Their idea was, if possible, to find a colorless substance that would prevent the further action, finding nothing that would do the one without doing the other. After trying many things with more or less success they ultimately settled on certain salts of picric acid, especially the magnesium, which, in combination with sodium sulphite, answers admirably. They recommend for general use a mixture of two parts anhydrous sodium sulphite and one part of magnesium picrate, this mixture being called "Chrysosulphite No. 1," while a mixture of 100 parts of anhydrous sodium sulphite and 15 parts of magnesium picrate is called by the authors "Chrysosulphite No. 2." These mixtures may be added to any one of the ordinary developers.



L. W. C.: Photographic Postcards—The following gives a printing-out card that can either be fixed after toning or toned and fixed together in a combined bath:

Ammonium chloride	100 grs.
Gelatine	10 grs.
Water	10 ozs.

Coat the surface of the paper or card with either a broad Blanchard brush or a tuft of cotton wool, being careful to give it an even coating; or better still, float upon the solution. When dry, the paper may be sensitized by floating it upon a neutral silver bath containing forty-five grains of silv're nitrate in each ounce of distilled water.

G. E. W.: Intensifying Solution:—Try this in place of one used.

No. 1.

Bichloride of mercury	200 grains
Bromide of potassium	100 grains
Water	10 ounces

No. 2.

Sulphite of sodium	$\frac{1}{2}$ ounce
Water	4 ounces

Place the negative in solution No. 1 until bleached, then rinse and place in solution No. 2 until entirely cleared after which the plate must be well washed. This operation may be repeated if there is not sufficient intensity gained by first treatment.

A. B. C. Cleaning a Lens:—Scratches on a lens reduce its speed. Therefore in wiping a lens it is well to be very particular what kind of a cloth is used. Most people prefer an old silk handkerchief, while others, still

more careful, insist that absorbent cotton is about the only thing with which to touch the lens. If the cotton leaves any lint, remove the lint with a soft camel's hair brush—the same brush with which you dust your plates before putting them in the plate holder.

A. Mo. N: Reducing Solution:—As good as can be used.

No. 1.

Ferricyanide of potassium	1 ounce
Water	16 ounces

No. 2.

Water	16 ounces
Hyposulphite of sodium	1 ounce

Wrap solution No. 1 in opaque paper, as it is affected by the light. Take a sufficient quantity of No. 2 to cover the plate in a tray, and add to it a small quantity of No. 1. immerse the plate and watch it carefully. If the solution contains enough of No. 1, the reduction will proceed rapidly. If certain part only of the negatives are too dense apply the reducing solution to those parts, while wet, with a pencil brush. Wash the plate thoroughly after this treatment. Do not attempt to save the reducing solution used.

O. B. N. Bust Pictures:—It takes considerable ingenuity to be able to get even passable bust pictures with a hand camera; but if a little attention is paid to the lighting, the work will be greatly improved. As it is necessary to have the camera very close to the subject, and the length of the bellows will not allow focusing, the next best thing to do is to use a very small stop, and make the exposure several seconds. Then use a very weak developer, so as to produce softness. With correct lighting and a weak developer very satisfactory results can be obtained.



One of the WEST family sent me a sample of Autotone Matt Paper recently and I used it to print some of my portrait negatives. It is about all one could ask for in the way of a printing paper. It tones while printing and only needs a bath of clean water and fixing in hypo. It costs next to nothing; a half gross of 4x5 costing only 55 cents postpaid. I got six good prints out of the half dozen sheets sent me and the waste should be next to nothing, and if you do waste a sheet you are not wasting much. Send twelve cents in stamps for a dozen and see if you do not like it. The address is the Photo Supply Company, 60 Dehon Street, Revere, Mass.

We call attention to the advertisement of B. P. Forbes, of Cleveland, O., manufacturer of the universal steel tripod elsewhere in this issue. This tripod weighs but at trifle, folds up into a small parcel like a music roll and can be carried in an ordinary dress suit case when traveling, may be set up ready for use in less than a minute. May be used as easily on a mountain side as on a level plain. Strong, durable and nickel plated. This tripod is suitable for cameras up to 4x5 and no tourist who uses such a camera should allow himself to start out on a trip without one.

SALEM INVENTOR RECOGNIZED.

Glenn Schaefer, manager of the Lusterine Manufacturing Company, of this city, is in receipt of an order

today from Shanghai, China, for a considerable supply of the photographic cloth, invented and manufactured by him. This company is doing a successful business in all parts of America and many England and Continental points, and is a local evidence and direct object lesson in the fact that there is really an open door in that dark country. The Salem company is to be congratulated upon its strides in the introduction of this now famous photographic material. It is the original of its kind known to the trade, and bids fair toward making Salem famous, and its inventor wealthy.—Salem, Ore., Journal.

SOMETHING ENTIRELY NEW IN PHOTOGRAPHIC PAPERS.

Carbona self toning. A matt printing out paper. Gives rich brown tones. Easier to work than blue print.

Carbona water tone. The Photo Era says, "It is a paper easy to manipulate, and the prints made on it are very fine."

Carbona P. O. P. Gives rich variety of tones ranging from sepia to carbon black, without extra trouble or expense.

Your address on a postal will bring you full descriptive circular.

Ten cents will bring you four finished pictures, warm and black tones.

Twenty-five cents will bring you sample packages of two kinds of paper.

The Carbona Company, St. Paul, Minn. See their ad on another page.

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,
Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps.

The Philatelic West.



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist,

The Photo Bulletin, Metropolis, and Curio Monthly

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A.

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 18000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Stamp Collectors Association, New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Union Souvenir Card Society, etc.

Vol. 28

NOVEMBER 30, 1904

No 3

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 210 So 30 St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Wauwatosa, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILOCARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Juneau, Wis R R 1

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

Woman Collectors Dept.—Miss Verna Weston Hanway, Dallas, Pa. Bx 156

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10C A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 36 prominent societies. THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER. The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

Next issue is the Holiday Xmas Number. Get your ad copy in early. IT WILL REACH READERS NO OTHER MAGAZINE HAS. The WEST is Best of all the Rest. It will pay all Advertisers to try it.

The Philosophy of Reuben.

1st. Paper Explaining Reuben and Reuben's Opinion of the Condition Craze.

VERNA WESTON HANWAY



I first met Reuben at his ancestral home where he had lived all his life and to quote his words he "was going to die right there by gum!" Naturally my comings and goings (I was the "summer boarder") were a source of much interest to Reuben and his wife. Several times while I was arranging and re-arranging my al-

bums I would note sundry wondering glances. One day when these glances were full of more curiosity than usual I called Reuben and commenced to explain what I was doing. One glance at his face showed plainly that this was needless. I knew that I had met a "brother". "Are ye a Philatelist too?" queried Reuben. "Jest hold on a second," with that he disappeared and after a time returned with two bulky books under his arm which bore the usual appearance of a much cherished album.

One glance at the albums showed plainly that if my host was destitute of more than the most common-place education he was nevertheless an out and out "Philatelist". The carefully arranged pages, the neat condition of the specimens, testified strong-

ly to the truth of my mental assertion.

From that day Reuben and I were chums. The choicest dainties were passed to me at the table. With the addition of little articles from the various rooms my room became the best in the house. The best horses on the farm were placed at my disposal and when I suggested that I would like a trap from the city Reuben left his work to procure one for me. In fact I had become a person of person of much importance.

The "Philosophy" is as I received from the lips of Reuben. Many were the chats we had upon matters philatelic. Indeed I enjoyed these talks much more than many with more polished and refined collectors. His quaint common-sense although couched in the most ungrammatical of language was still pure unadulterated commonk-sense.

Since that summer I have made a point of seeing Reuben and his good wife frequently.

REUBEN ON CONDITION.

"Yes sir this here craze for condition has gone fur enuf. Philatelists seem to have gone crazy. Now, I would a sight ruthre have a good stamp than a bad un; but land sakes, we can't all have the fine ones and whut's the use of kickin' 'gainst the pricks as our pastor tells about? I haint' got 'nough money ter pay fur a 'perfect' stamp but I hez fur a good un, and if I kin git a good un I'm satisfied and I think enybody that's got any sinse had orter be.

My Jak here has bin readin' up on Philately. The other day some stamps come on approval sheets. Wall the kid didn't have no stamps like some that was on that air sheet, so I told the boy he could hev them stamps, fur I guess I can 'ford ter buy my boy stamps if I cant' 'ford

outhin' else. What did thur little imp do but stick up his nose and say he didn't want such stuff. "Why you haint' got any like um," says I. "No," says he, "but they haint perfect specimens, pop." See this here one hain't well centered, end the perferations hain't right in this one, and these here are all smudged. They hain't no good." Wall now them stamps were average specimens, but the kid he'd got his noodle full of high toned notions about condition from them there big speshelistic papers he hed read.

I hain't goin' to let him read no more on em, I thinks they have a demerizin' effect, so I do.

Wall by cracky!, I says, You cant' git any better. Them there stamps is the good fair, kind and ez I hain't no millionaire and cant' 'ford no aute-mobilly, bad's I want one I can't 'ford you no high toned stamp. I don't want you to have poor stamps for they be a disgrace to any collector but you hain't goin' to waste your time an' my money er lookin' fur somethin' yer can't hev. Wall Jake he took them stamps end I haint' heard nothin' more from him about condition.

But, durn it, you can't git away from at! Now I take sivin philatelic papers and once I counted five stories and erbout sivin more little things warnin' collectors 'ginst everything that wasn't in mint condition. "Yer cant' sell fur a profit ef you buy anything else," says they. Wall now I'd like ter know who wants ter sell; I'll be durned if I do. I haint' makin' my livin' by stamps Now, I think its gittin' ruther serius when they waste so much time, paper end ink, 'pon such stuff.

Now anybody who knows much about stamps knows thet there be three classes, them that be poor;

them that average that is ter say good; and them that be perfect. There haint' very many stamps which is in fine condition and they are hard to git and costs a sight of money. A merely well-to-do man like I be cant' 'ford a collection of this sort. Hits alright fur multy-millionaires, who can 'ford ter hire men ter hunt for 'em and tend 'em, but my time's money and money's money ter me.

Among the early issues that are very interesting are the numeral series of the stamps of Brazil. No attempt was made, when these were issued, to produce a handsome design, but the engraving was of such a nature that the stamps have not been very successful counterfeited. Many of the varieties on the different kinds of paper are easily obtained, and the spaces in the album are well filled with good copies of these old issues. The perforated series of these numerals are quite rare, and care should be taken in regard to them, as the perforation is often counterfeited.

The issues of the French colonies which were made many years ago are now considered very desirable. The reason for this seems to lie in the fact that, when issued, these colonial surcharges were despised by nearly all collectors, so that very few of them were purchased compared with the number of collectors who now desire them. The scarcer stamps have found their way for the most part into collections, and the same brittle quality of paper which has been referred to in connection with the early issues of the United States has caused many of the more common specimens of these French colonial stamps to be injured to such an extent as to make them undesirable for the album.

That Curious Word **"PHILATELY"**

BY B. W. W A R H U R S T
O F E N G L A N D

Philately is a curious word certainly, and—as with the old lady who told her pastor that she “found great comfort in that blessed word Mesopotamia,”—many people now find financial support and recreative comfort from Philately. “But what does it mean?” To this, of course, Macaulay’s omniscient schoolboy would reply, “Stamp collecting.” Is that all then, and why is it so called? The dictionary will tell us that it was compounded from two Greek words—philos, loving, or fond of, and ateleia, freedom from tax—thus making philatelie (in French form) as meaning a “fondness for objects that indicate freedom from tax.” It is now thirty-seven years since Mons. Herpin introduced the word, as the habit of collecting stamps was growing rapidly, and some word was wanted that the collectors of any country might adopt without jealousy as to its being of British or French extraction, such as Stampology or Timbromanie would be.

In a general way, the term philatelist is intended to apply to one who studies stamps or collects with knowledge and discretion, as distinct from one who is a mere accumulator of stamps or postcards, just as we use the similar words of numismatist and coin collector. So much condensed information is now given in the standard catalogues especially those issued by the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., that, in one sense, there is not so much need for investigation, and yet, in another sense, there is published therein only just sufficient to act as a stimulus for greater individual study and research.

Either as a recreation or a hobby, philately is the most delightful and harmless of all, possessing charms of variety and attractiveness that no other collecting can approach. Moreover, it is suited to the means and comprehension of a young scholar, or of a South African or North American millionaire desiring to be relieved of the strain of his money bags. Speaking of mental strain, and consequent insomnia, many professional men and City merchants have discovered that, after returning home from a hard day’s work, there is no relaxation equal to that of tiring to their stamps, for it enables them to forget their labor and worries, and to secure a good night’s sleep and refreshment for the coming day. Historical and geographical information, a knowledge of engraving, printing, and colors, the familiarity with portraits of rulers or eminent men of many countries, pictures of scenery, copies of celebrated paintings, and illustrations of the flora and fauna, the birds, beasts, and fishes even places, can all be obtained from those small bits of colored paper called stamps, whether used for postal or fiscal purposes.

With coins, crests, china, and curios in general, there is no possibility of completion, as nobody knows enough of all different issues or makes of these articles to catalogue them even approximately; but with postage stamps, their earliest history and every variety printed in every country have been made known, because they belong to a period within which all official information is obtainable, with a few exceptions as to some temporary design or provisional issues. From this published information a collector, beginning at any time, can learn exactly what varieties are obtainable, and the probable

cost, varying as they do from a cent to a thousand pounds sterling, and if he is a cautious or calculating man, who plans out his spending money as carefully as he does his means of making it, he can decide beforehand just how far he will go or what he will invest. For this is one of the advantages of stamps as compared with all other hobbies—that a man or woman can have the pleasure of collecting, looking at, and exhibiting his or her treasures, with the certain knowledge that they will increase in value, as they are not subject to the vagaries of fashion.

"Variety alone gives joy," our poets tell us, but in what hobby or pursuit can such variety be found as in stamps? Even if Greater Britain alone be ransacked for specimens of the past sixty years only, there will be enough to occupy a wealthy collector some years; and if he goes beyond that, twice as many more varieties can be added, with the certainty of a thousand fresh ones for every year he lives. On the other hand, the humble toiler, with modest purse and desires, may find fresh pleasures in his album at a cost no greater than that of his music-hall, or even of the "plant divine of rarest virtue" whose "clouds all other clouds dispel."

J. W. Scott, the oldest stamp dealer in the United States has recently published an engraved chart, which has spaces for seventeen specimens of the United States stamps, a space for one of each series, issued from 1847, when the first regular stamps for our country were issued, down to the present day. The stamps for which space has been provided are as follows: 1847, the first stamp, 5 cents; 1851, rate reduced to 3 cents; 1861, civil war stamp; 1863, the rebel stamp, which bears a por-

trait of Jefferson Davis; 1869, the 3-cent blue engine stamp; 1870, Washington's face appears once more; 1883, the rate is again reduced, this time to 2 cents; 1887, the color changed; 1890, the small stamp; the color changed again 1890; 1893, the Columbian series; 1894, government printing; 1898, Trans-Mississippi stamps; 1901, Pan-American stamp; 1902, the suppressed design; 1903, Washington, and 1904, the Louisiana Purchase. These charts, when properly filled out, will do much to draw more persons into the ranks of philately.

And why not! In the busy, contentious bustle of the competition of the day the brain, strained to its utmost tension, demands the relaxation of some absorbing, pleasure-yielding hobby. Those who have tried it attest the fact that few things more completely wean the attention for the time being from the vexations and worries of the day than the collection and arrangement of postage stamps. It has an ever-recurring freshness all its own, a scope for research that is never likely to be exhausted, a literature varied and abundant, and a close and interesting relation to the history and progress of nations and people, that insensibility widens the trend of human sympathies and human knowledge.—Edward Nankivell.

The newspapers are carrying a notice to the effect that D. M. Johnson, of Birmingham, Mich., is in receipt of a very curious piece of mail matter. It consists of a new crisp one-dollar bill with the address printed on the same in red ink and a two cent stamp attached to it for postage. It is considered one of the most unique pieces of mail matter ever sent through the mails.

Philately of The Gods.

Arthur Weellington Wheeler

PART I.

The night was dark and foggy as a result of the rain on the previous day. The atmospheric condition of the heavens was entirely out of the ordinary on this particular Friday night of which I speak. If one of the old Romans had been walking the streets of this city on that eventful night, he probably would have exclaimed with fear "*Ira deorum*" or like expression. It was because of the unpleasantness of the weather rather than any supernatural fear that I remained at home on this night instead of attending the regular meeting of my favorite philatelic society. Besides the hindrance in the weather I was some what fatigued from a little social affair the night before, which had engaged interest until a late hour, to add to this I had eaten my lunch at the "*Chop Suey House*" and was not the better for it. Because of these reasons I had raised my expectations to a high degree concerning an evening at home in my den with government "*stickers*." In the midst of my enjoyment I experienced a peculiar sensation.

When I entered my room I noticed upon looking out of my west window an unnatural light. Unlike that of the setting sun when it casts a glow on the heavens, and unlike any similar reflection of light. I was however, not alarmed, and a passing thought accounted for it as being the *Aurora Borealis* or some other like phenomenon with which I had once been familiar but now only knew by name. Therefore I picked up a stamp paper and sank down in my most comfortable rocker and pro-

ceeded to study the contents of my periodical. In this I was baffled, by the peculiar sensation of which I have made mention. It seemed impossible to hold my attention to the paper I was reading. The continued feeling that something is going to happen, which is often present with certain individuals was, on this evening, with me.

After some moments of uncertainty my condition took a turn. I had no desire to pace the floor, but to my only motive was to stare at a cut in the center of the page where I was reading. This picture belonged to an article on the same page which gave a treatise on the stamps of Greece. The longer I stared the larger the figure on the stamp grew. How this figure gradually grew to the size of a well built man, I will probably never know. There was the figure before me. Was I in a trance? To test my consciousness I actually tried the old method of using my fingers as pincers and applying to my flesh, I surely was awake as I was aware of the cause and also of the unpleasant effect.

What did this all mean? Before I had time to answer this question the figure before me moved so that I at once recognized his head gear and winged sandals and knew immediately that I was in the presence of Mercury, messenger of the Gods. It now all came back to me. The figure on the stamp in the paper I was reading was that of Mercury. All this and more was going through my mind when it was suddenly cut short by a conversation that immediately ensued between us.

(Continued.)

The Kings Stamps.

Prince of Wales Tells How They Were Designed.

The great interest taken in stamp collecting by the Prince of Wales—who possesses a collection valued at something like \$100,000 is well known. Concrete testimony to his Royal Highness's enthusiasm for the hobby is to be found in a little book entitled "The postage Stamps of Great Britain," by Mr. Fred J. Melville.

In this book a paper by the Prince of Wales, "Notes on the Postal Adhesive Issues of the United Kingdom during the Present Reign," is printed as an appendix. His Royal Highness commences by explaining that as the changes in the postal issues of the Mother-Country made necessary by the accession of King Edward have now long been completed, the present would seem a convenient time to compile the history of the stamps issue by the home authorities during the present reign.

Trials were made with three-quarter face and quarter face portraits of the King from photographs, he says; but his Majesty chose a portrait executed in 1900 by Herr Emil Fuchs. Mr. Fuchs prepared a special drawing of the portrait, for which the King was pleased to grant a sitting. The frame and border designs were prepared by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., under the artist's instructions, and from a sketch furnished by him.

The original sketch and the border were then photographed and the two prints placed together, a fresh photographic impression being taken of the whole. This was submitted to the King and was approved by him. The original, with the King's written approval is now in the Prince's stamp collection.

Temporary copper plates were

made to show the effect, and at this stage the Queen suggested an improvement, which was suggested by reducing the width of the wreath design.

The Prince explains why the little books of stamps recently issued are frequently found with inverted watermarks. It seems that to facilitate the binding of the stamps into books, half the stamps on a sheet were printed upside down.

"I do not, of course, claim for these notes the importance of a philatelic paper," says the Prince in conclusion, "but as all the information and dates given may be relied upon as authentic, I hope that they may be of use in saving a future historian or the stamps of this country, a not inconsiderable amount of research and trouble."

For several years Germany made an attempt to bring Bavaria and Wurtemberg into the Imperial post and suppress their stamps, but this was not successful until 1902, when Wurtemberg agreed to suppress her stamps and use the German, but objected to the word "Reichspost" (Imperial Post), inasmuch as the kingdom still retained control of its royal postal system, and, in fact, still uses royal postage stamps. Accordingly a new set was issued bearing the legend "Deutsches Reich" (German Empire), but Bavaria has still refused to come into the fold.

Advanced Collector—One who has stayed by stamps until he has enough to think he knows it all.

The 10p red brown of Great Britain, 1865, now sells for \$150, and is going up in price steadily.

Hunting for Curios in New York—Finds I Have Made and Where I Find Them.

By MAXWELL C. B. HART

Starting my tastes for collecting and swapping at the age of twelve and starting with stamps I soon acquired a desire to unearth treasures and found that I could make a little pin money during my leisure hours. After I had left the public schools and like most boys in my station in life I went to work and found that the large concern I was with (one of the largest wholesale dry goods concerns in the country) received probably as much as one thousand letters daily I soon won my way into the good graces of the man who opened the mail I made an agreement to take home the empty (?) envelopes and examine them and return whatever I found in them. For my pains I retained all the stamps and during the first months of the issue of the Columbian stamps I reaped a good sum for my "trouble" I received all the registered mail which in itself meant quite a few pennies weekly in pin money. My knowledge of stamps increasing my aptitude for finding them also increased and I eventually found a very good source in the Italian paper shops situated in the heart of the business district. The paper sorters saved all the stamps from the common two cent stamps unto unused stamps of every denomination and ever so many unused postal cards and they readily sold unused stamps at one half face value and between an occasional find oftimes a nice lot of old revenues I found this a good source for increasing my pin money. My fancy soon turned in other directions and finding I had (what I

might flatter myself with) a natural gift for striking a bargain when it came in my path I soon ventured into picking up books, printed matter and curios and will endeavor to describe some of my finds and where I found them but before speaking of books etc., I will tell of a "good find" in stamps I made at a storage warehouse auction sale.

Having a position at the time (about 1898) when I did not have to report for duty until one p. m. I often looked for bargains at the storage warehouse auction sales and on this one day in particular I took a male cousin along to show him where I delve for treasures and was about to leave when I discovered a very large trunk filled with letters from all parts of the world all in their original envelopes which I finally bought, trunk, contents and all for the colossal sum of one dollar and ten cents! During my excitement in tying up the trunk so that its contents could not be tampered with, a much smaller trunk sold for twenty-five cents! I had my attention then called to it and purchased it from the lucky buyer for three dollars! It was now time for me to go to work and giving my cousin instructions to get an expressman to cart the trunks home. I hustled off to work (buying the latest edition stamp catalogue on my way). Arriving home about midnight I at once went to work and while I did not find any great rarities I found several stamps catalogued from five to fifteen dollars. The following day I had a reliable dealer at my home and sold him the lot for One hundred dollars, which was a pretty good find on an investment of five dollars and ten cents (including one dollar expressage). Of course I rewarded my cousin liberally for his trouble and found even then enough left to chuckle over.

(Continued.)

Australian Notes *Melbourne Argus*

A strangely exaggerated value is attached by the Commonwealth Postal authorities to the custom of the office. They evidently think they can refute criticism and confound their accusers by simply stating that any proceeding against which a complaint has been lodged is a rule of the department, or has been in vogue for a number of years. No better reply has been given to Dr. Leeper's strictures on the delay in the return of undelivered letters. It is the rule of the office to wait a month, and as a rule of the office is too sacred a thing to be changed to suit the convenience of the public or to bring our postoffice into line with the more energetic post-offices of other lands. A like devotion to old habits is traceable in the secretary's defence of the practice of selling sets of stamps defaced for philatelic purposes, although they have not passed through the post. It has been done in Australia for 30 years, and therefore Mr. R. T. Scott cannot perceive any wrong in it. There must be an extraordinary power of distortion in the official lens. If Mr. Scott looked at the practice with the naked eye of the private citizen, and not through his departmental glasses, he could scarcely fail to observe its unpleasing features.

What object can there be in this irregular cancellation but to enhance the value of the stamps in the eyes of philatelists? Stamp collectors always desire to secure specimens which have actually been used, and the only guarantee that the specimens have been used is the postoffice defacement. What our postoffice is doing is to deface stamps on false pretences to mark them so as to make them

appear as having really passed through the post on a letter. Is not this very like an abuse of merchandise marks, or an attempt to rig the stamp market? Cancelling stamps privately in order to increase their market value for the favored few who are on good terms with the postal authorities does not appear to differ in essence from the offence of, say, the Japanese manufacturer who used to turn out matches marked Bryant and May, or that of the picture-dealer who employs copyists to reproduce the signature as well as the style of an old master.

Ringling the changes with stamps is, of course, not an uncommon postal device. There are states in Central America which alter their issues with frequent regularity in order to force the philatelists to buy new stamps in large quantities while they are in circulation. The practice amounts to a tax on the victims of a widespread craze. In effect, they are made to contribute liberally to the revenue of countries with which they have no concern. Tonga, in the Pacific, has been complained of as a sinner of this kind. But the practice which, according to Mr. Scott, has had 30 year's life in Australia, is of a different category. It makes it useless for stamp collectors to lay in stocks of current issues. The department, by showing favor to special people, can at any time depreciate the market by looking up its disused patterns, printing new sheets of stamps, and putting what is really a bogus defacement mark on them. If it could be claimed for this policy that the object is to bring Australian stamps into disrepute, and so do something to kill a very prevalent hobby, may people might be got to defend it. But apparently the department has no such philanthropic aim.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL AND OTHERWISE

Although King Christian of Denmark has ruled for forty years his picture has never appeared upon a postage stamp.

The reason that the stamp of Mauritius and Ceylon in unused condition are sold below their apparent face value lies in the fact that the "cents" are one-hundredths of a rupee, instead of one-hundredth of a dollar. The rupee is worth about one-third of the American dollar.

The word "Anotido" on the 1868 issue of Mexico means registered or unaccounted for.

One of the most striking United States stamps ever issued was the 2 cent black of 1866, head of Andrew Jackson. The head occupies almost the whole of the stamp. The picture is much too large for the size of the stamp and gives it a peculiar appearance.

A well known Eastern collector recently received on an "original envelope" a Franklin Carrier stamp. He took the stamp from the envelope to examine it, and was disgusted when he found a stamp hinge attached to it.

A machine which produces stamps in their natural colors and enlarges the same is called the "amphemigiscope," and is being used by a number of specialists.

The Republic of San Salvador must be credited with the doubtful honor of having issued more varieties of postage stamps than any other coun-

try, the number being 404 to date.

The stamps of the Netherlands and its colonies are an interesting series for study. There are many varieties to be found even among the more common stamps. The issues of the Dutch Indies have been found with blue lines ruled across their backs similar in appearance to those found on note paper. Young collectors should examine such of these stamps as are in their possession, as some denominations with these lines are quite scarce.

Don't throw away any common stamps which may be damaged, for, while they are valueless as specimens for the collection, they may be used as patches, so to speak, when more valuable stamps are being repaired. A stamp with a piece missing may sometimes be mended so skillfully by pasting a stamp of the same shade and color on the back that it is difficult to distinguish it from a perfect specimen. Save all your stamps, torn or damaged.

A very great number of varieties in the surcharges recently issued for the Panama Republic and the lack of reason for these differences has caused collectors generally to cease gathering them. It is said that if one purchased a sufficient quantity of the stamps at the principal Postoffices in Panama a hand stamp would be given and he would be allowed to surcharge his stamps to suit himself.

For forty-six years the portrait of Emperor Joseph has appeared on the stamps of Austria. The picture of Queen Victoria was printed on the stamps of Great Britain for a period of sixty-one years.

Mauritius was the first British colony to issue adhesive stamps and was also the first British colony to issue surcharged stamps.

Philatelic Advertising

BY AN ADVERTISER

In the field of the Philately, the proverb which says, "Advertising pays" has just as much force as in the business world in general, but in Philatelic Advertising the same, if not more, care and attention is required to make a success. There is one advantage in advertising that a general newspaper advertiser has over him who advertises stamps in a philatelic publication. In the first case, there is less competition; the advertiser has but few competitors in his own line, but with us poor stamp dealers things are somewhat different: we are obliged to advertise amongst dozens of others who advertise the same goods—perhaps at the same prices—but nevertheless some method must be adopted whereby to make our advertisements have a drawing power over purchasers, so that they may be singled out from the multitude, and last, but most important, prove advantageous to our pockets. How shall we do it? By judiciously advertising; but how few dealers there are who understand what it means to judiciously advertise. A young boy friend of mine who had a page advertisement in several papers told me that he advertised judiciously; he should have said extensively. Do not decline to insert a small advertisement in a paper, fearing it will not be seen. It will be seen, never fear! All you need to do is to make your ad attractive to get it answered, and you can then circulate all the printed matter and lists you desire at a small cost. Carefully select the papers you intend to advertise in; do not be guided by rates to any great extent. Select those magazines whose contents are such as will interest collectors. for

paper whose reading matter is scarce or poor is generally thrown aside unread.—Take great pains in the preparation of the advertisement; make the display lines prominent, and, if possible, entirely unique; do not say too much, so as to crowd your space—it don't pay! Cuts of stamps, small illustrations, always make an adv attractive, and invariably pay for themselves. A standing adv always pays 50 per cent better in proportion than one inserted occasionally. Some collectors read an adv and lay it by intending to answer it later, but forget it; while if your adv appears in the next issue, it will be again brought before him, and probably result in securing his trade. Care in the preparation of an adv always pays; and when a collector sees a carelessly written ad he seldom pays any attention to it. Friend dealer! be a little more painstaking with your advertisements in future, and the result will not only pay you but it will serve to lighten up the advertising pages of our philatelic journals.

You get letters by the dozen from "the best paper published," but you just take our word for it this once at the WEST pays and try December. If you don't use some space with us in December (we don't care how small), you will always wish you had when you see the issue—and remember we close early.

The Columbian stamps, issued by the United States to commemorate the World's Fair held at Chicago, are being counterfeited. A full description of the counterfeit can not be given at this time, but collectors should be careful in purchasing or dealing in this issue at present.

Rare Postage Stamps

C. Clifton Brink

Every country of importance has at some time or other issued postage stamps. The first issue would naturally be considered the most rare, but frequently some issue in which an error has been made takes precedence, for instance the three pfennig stamp of Germany issued in 1903 with the first E of the words Deutsches Reich, which was printed in capital letters, having the lower bar so broken as to make it an F, the word Dfutches Reich, giving the stamp the value of one dollar while if printed or spelled correctly it would have been worth one cent. For the first issue we will take the two pence, blue, of Mauritius, issued in 1847, which was the first year stamps were issued in this island. The two pence, blue is very scarce, copies having been sold at private sales as high as eight thousand dollars each. On one occasion this same stamp again changed hands for the sum of thirteen thousand dollars. The stamp was on its original wrapper, (envelope), which gave it considerable more value than if it had been removed and sold.

Stamps of extraordinary value are not subject to foreign countries alone our own United States have a few which are by no means common. When the United States first issued stamps in the year 1845 (according to Scott's List), some of the principal cities issued stamps for their own use, Alexandria, Virginia, took the initiative, the next year, 1846, Annapolis, Maryland; Baltimore, Maryland; Lockport, New York, followed. During the same year Brattleboro, Vermont issued a stamp of the five cent denomination which in the years before 1860 could be bought for ten

cents, either used or unused, this stamp now holds the price of six hundred dollars, each in used condition. In the years 1845 and 1846 the city of St. Louis, Missouri, issued stamps which are now valued from one hundred and fifty dollars to two hundred and fifty dollars each. The general issue of stamps for use in any city or town in the United States from 1847 down to the present time vary in price from one hundred dollars each to one cent per hundred. Many of the United States locals bring from five cents to one hundred dollars each. Many of the revenues used during, and after, the Civil war bring from one cent to three hundred dollars each and stamps used by the Confederate States have brought six hundred dollars each. at auction. Neither length of time, nor circumstances alone give value to stamps, error as cited in the two pence, blue of Mauritius has also played its hand in the issue known through the stamp collecting world as the PanAmerican issue which was placed on sale by the United States in 1901. By mistake the steamship on the one cent; the train on the two cent; and the automobile on the four cent were inverted in their respective dies. The one cent in this condition demands a price from fifteen dollars to seventeen dollars; the two cent, twenty dollars to twenty-five dollars and the four cent from twenty-five dollars to thirty dollars, herefor age does not make any considerable difference.

Rare postage stamps are not determined wholly by their valuation as to dollars and cents, still the commercial value of a stamp depends so wholly upon the scarcity of certain issues that one is liable to confound the two, the issues of Prince Edward Island and those of British Columbia and Vancouver Island are very rare

stamps for the reason that they were not used many years before England issued stamps for the whole Dominion of Canada and thus England's issue supercedes the issue of these various provinces, this of course, gives them a high market value. Outside their valuation they are held high in the estimation of every collector for special significance. The first issue of New Foundland, 1857, is of singular value to collectors who are equally enthusiastic with specialists who seek these stamps for specific purposes.

The value of a stamp, therefore, depends upon one of the following statements, or may depend, at times, on two. First, the paper; its color, thickness or thinness; watermarked or not. Second, error; in die, paper, etc. Third age, number issued, number in existence, number held for sale, etc. These particulars all have an influence on the price and incomparable value of stamps.

Speculation Championed **B . P . W A G N E R .**

Speculation is a bad thing unless you have power to some extent and the small collector has not the chance to hold as do firms, etc. These think nothing of buying a big stock of a new issue to hold for say five or ten years or even more but for a small company or an individual, speculation has no profit. Take, for instance, the 1898 issue Revenues, take for example the 2c carmine rose, uncanceled cat., 4 cents at 50 per cent discount (as generally sold) leaves 2 cts net or face value. Here six years later we are not able to realize any thing except from higher values and these are not for general speculation. In fact cost is too great. Next take the Pan American

issue, face value 30 cents per set, can buy same for 9 cents above face. What is that—simply a small profit, yet hold them, say 10, 15 or 25 years (probably the latter) and the premium will be something. Like all other things, demand controls prices.

Yet had we been in the time of the 1869 issue and made an investment of \$1.00 in 2c stamps we would have now, 35 years later realized a net profit of \$2.00 at 50 per cent discount. See this from the examples.

If you are able to hold indefinitely you cannot help but make a splendid profit, yet by no means do stamps of this time bring such prices even 50 years later for a simple reason stamps are now issued in larger quantities than then. No speculation is not the place for the small dealer to any extent, of course an investment of a few dollars will doubt not to any extent. However a good field for present speculation is this and I think any collector justifiable in using it.

Many druggists and banks have remainders of the '98 issue in too small a quantity to return and now are of no value to them, as most of them have laid them away and not caring for them will sell them for below face. This is a speculative investment I recommend but small dealers, don't hit the nail too hard.

Queen Isabella of Spain died in the month of April, in Paris. Her portrait on the stamps of Spain is familiar to all stamp collectors. The peculiar designs of the early issues for Spain and the Philippines will be remembered. Isabella was Queen of Spain, and her picture appeared on the stamps for thirty-five years. She abdicated the throne in 1868, at the time of the formation of the Spanish Republic, and lived most of the time in Paris.

Match and Medicine ***By W F P L A N K***

Considerable discussion is now going on among stamp collectors and stamp publications concerning an album for these interesting stamps. The old National album contained places and illustrations for them, but how many have one of these albums.

I believe there were more collectors of match and medicine stamps in the latter part of the 80's and early part of the 90's than in recent years. Dealers then possessed good stocks of these stamps, while now, few have what might be called large stocks.

With the advent of an album a great increase of collectors of these stamps may be predicted. We find among them, enough varieties for the specialist enough beauty of design and color for the artistic, enough strange shapes and forms for the curious and stamps high enough in price for her long purse! By looking at Scotts Catalogs we find nearly 5000 varieties of match, medicine, perfumery and playing card stamps. These exist of 4 varieties of papers. The first issue were on "old papers" and are generally scarcer than those on the other varieties of papers. Old paper is so called on account of the oldish appearance of the paper. Silks pink and watermarked paper are the other three varieties. We find that about 560 stamps are catalogued at \$1.00 or less. So one can form quite a collection without a very great outlay of money. It was no uncommon thing for a collector 10 or 15 years ago to drop into a country drug store and by a little friendly chat, a cigar or two get permission from the druggist to examine his dusty row of patent medicine bottles and remove what stamps might be found. One was

always sure of some and occasionally a "rich find" was made. But times are changed now, and the dusty bottle with its stamp intact is a scarce thing to find. A collector bought a large block of the Mansfield Drug Co. of Memphis, stamps at one cent each, face. They were catalogued then at 50 cents each. Another collector bought a gross of boxes of matches in order to get the stamps. The matches were worthless, but the stamps desirable. If all the still hunts and finds of these stamps that collectors and dealers have made, what an interesting volume it would make.

Of the Match stamps the 3c green of the American Match Co., of Rock Island, Ills., is the scarcest cataloging \$100.00 a few varieties exist rouletted but the greater part are perforated. For firms desiring stamps who did not have their own private stamps, the government issued a 1c stamp with bust of Franklin, blue on old and silk paper. It is somewhat on the order of the 1851 regular 1c stamp. The Universal Safety Match Co's stamp is one of the most artistic and of the match stamps.

It is among the medicine stamps though, that we find the reason for the fascination for collecting this branch of revenue stamps. Here we find stamps of every conceivable size and shape and printed in all colors of the rainbow. Many of these stamps are in shape of a star which was placed over the cork of the bottle while the points of the star were gummed on the neck of the bottle.

Ayers Campion, Jayne, Hoyt, etc, used stamps of this design. Many other stamps were oblong, larger in the center and smaller at the ends and were die cut. They were gummed over the cork as the star shaped stamps. These two varieties

of form make it difficult to get these stamps in perfect condition. Ring's Vegetable Ambrosia is a round die cut stamp with attempts at perforating.

In points of variety, J. C. Ayer's 1c red and 1c purple and Wilson's 4c black are the highest priced—\$300.00 each.

The perfumery and playing card stamps, both show skill of the engraver's art. Taking it all in all they are handsome "bits o' paper" and many a pleasant hour can be spent in looking over a collection of them. Then, too, think of the vast sums of money these stamps poured in the U. S. treasury in our country's hour of need. Then to think of the enormous, hard earned dollars of a poor, misguided people, who have purchased the medicine that these stamps taxed. Then, too, think of the millions of pains, cramps, colics, headaches, etc., etc., that these stamps cured! Don't you think, reader, that a collection of M and M's brings lots of thoughts to one's mind?

Continental Money

MAUD CHARLOTTE BINGHAM
Vice-Pres't Phil. Liter'y Soc'y

In "Curio Dept," of Oct, WEST, is an article in regard to an \$8.00 Continental bill, U. S., that is most misleading in its character, of value as a curio. Doubtless Mr. Sanborn did refuse \$25 for it, as he called it valuable, for its associations, etc., but its real value as a curio is not to exceed 35 cents, for I have in 10 years had, perhaps 40 of that value alone, beside 2 or 300, of other values, up to \$60, and running down to "one sixth of a Dollar," all dated 1776 to 1778, or '9. None of later than 1779. I have now, perhaps, 35, "U. S. Con-

tinental bills," and not less than 60 "State of Mass. Bay" 1780, \$1 to \$20, that anyone may have a specimen of for 12 unused U. S. stamps, if they care to send for them. They are perfectly Authentic and Genuine, and if many of the dealers do ask 50 cents each, they are hardly worth that.

"The State of Massachusetts, was previously to 1782, called "The State of Mass. Bay," and issued money same as Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island and some of the southern states did. One peculiarity of "Mass Bay" money, different than any other of the States money, was, that the United States "Guaranteed the payment" (on the back) of each, of "Mass Bay" bills and eventually did pay them, as the cancellation on each of them shows.

I have seen bills of South Carolina, 1778-1780, that were nearly as large as a whole page of the WEST, but most of the States were only 3 by 4 inches in size, or about that. They are perfectly authentic and of a coarse texture of paper, not often found in papers of today.

Much space is already sold for December WEST. Advertisers who took our word for it and tried October are almost without exception back for space in December. Business is coming in so we can close December a week early. We want to close the 13th and have every paper in the mails by the 17th. To do this we must know who wants space at once. It will be a favor to us to hear from you in any event.

M A C A U B Y S I D D A L L

Macau is a sleepy old Portuguese city transplanted to China, and its population, said to be about 80,000, is composed principally of Chinese.

Macau is the oldest existing settlement of Europeans in China, dating back several hundred years. In the early days it was the headquarters of the Christian propaganda that was carried on in China, Japan and Korea, and its name is often mentioned in accounts of the early missionaries. There are many monistaries and convents scattered all over the city.

The colony, or concession, occupies only about two square miles, and is located on a little peninsula that juts out from the main land of China, being connected by a narrow causeway, scarcely above the level of the tides, over which runs a road paved with large granite blocks, used in so many Chinese roads, that make traveling on them by any wheeled vehicle an experience to be remembered.

Macau is called the "Monte Carlo of the East," owing to the fact that the government permits gambling to be carried on openly in regularly licensed establishments. The best business corners in the city are occupied by fantan games, over the doors of which, in Chinese, Portuguese and English, are the inscriptions, "Blank's First-Class Gambling House," or words to that effect. The limit in some of these places is the ceiling, but others refuse to allow one to bet over \$1500 at once. The games run day and night, and seem to be well patronized. Most of the proprietors are Chinamen.

Macau is reached after about three hours' steaming from Hong Kong,

the steamers, being fine large boats of the French line, besides various Chinese and English lines. Other lines run up the river to Canton, about 75 miles. Macau is one of the prettiest places in the East, its bay being compared to the Bay of Naples. An old cathedral in ruins, on the top of one of the hills in the city, is an interesting sight, and can be seen on most of the photographs of the city. The streets are narrow and crooked, with sidewalks from three inches to three feet wide, and the streets are paved with granite, laid with great care, giving the appearance of mosaic patterns, and as smooth as a brick pavement.

One of the sights of the city is Camoens' Gardens, a beautiful place presented to the city many years ago by one of its leading citizens, and used as a park. In this garden are large vases built of little pieces of stone, fitted together with infinite care, making a fine piece of mosaic work.

Macau is one of the places whose stamps are hard to get in used condition, as there are but few demands on its postoffice, comparatively for stamps for postal purposes. Nobody wants to wade through a "Postal History of Macau," and so I will refer the catalogue, where they are all listed—if the catalogue has left out a few, what is the difference? There are plenty listed.

One of the results of the nearness of Hong Kong, Canton and Macau is that the stamps of all three places are found with cancellations of either of the others. This happens by the letters being posted on board the boats plying between the various places, or after the closing of the mails, and the stamps are cancelled on arrival at the destination of the letter.

*The Stamps of the
Netherlands*
C. GRANDPIERRE

(Continued from last month).

The 1 cent.

The earliest prints show already a great variety of green shades, more or less bright or dull. 1877-78 appears a paler blue-green soon replaced by a dull rather pale green and a dull yellow green, printed from a set of dirty or worn dies. 1882 appears again a clear impression with emerald green shades, replaced by a dull yellow-green, followed by a clear yellow-green impression. The dullest shade, a dull blue-green, appears 1894, just before the adoption of the anilin blue-green.

I collected about 350 shades in 13 distinct groups and found one copy bearing postmark 1878 in distinct pale blue.

The 2 cents.

The original shade was yellow-ochre, turning (1884) to orange-bistre and yellow-bistre and, later, from cleaned plates, to deep or pale yellow-bistre, giving way (1894) to the regular issue in olive-bistre of different grades.

I collected about 200 shades in 12 distinct groups.

The 2½ cents.

The 2½ cents shows greater contrasts of colors than the other values. Already the earliest prints have shades varying from pale lilac to red-lilac and from violet to blue-lilac, the brightest and violet appearing by 1892 followed by a deep violet impression from cleaned plates.

1894 the change of colors is far more important than the other values. The lilac and violet shades are replaced by purple shades varying from deep purple to purple-lilac and from brown-purple to red purple.

I have collected about 200 different

violet shades in 11 groups and 200 purple shades in 17 distinct groups.

1891-96 ISSUE.

Also of this issue even the non collector should make at least two sets. With the introduction of the anilin (coal tar) colors and of the transparent paper we have quite a distinct issue of stamps 1894.

Scott does not list this issue properly, putting sometimes the anilin sometimes the ordinary color first. Even Gibbons, though mentioning the principal shades, does not classify them.

I should suggest:

1891-94: Perf. 12½ large holes, clean cut and (from 1892) 12½ medium holes.

Opaque paper.

3c chrome-yellow.

a. pale orange yellow.

5c deep dull blue.

a. pale dull ultramarine.

b. prussian blue.

7½c violet brown.

10c lake. a. brick red.

12½c olive-grey. a. grey.

15c orange-brown.

20c yellow-green.

22½c deep yellow-green.

25c purple.

50c yellow-brown.

1 g bluish purple.

2 g 50c rose-lake and ultramarine.

1894. Perf. 12½ medium holes.

Smooth transparent paper.

3c orange.

5c bright ultramarine.

7½ brown. a. grey brown.

10 rose.

12½c steel grey,

15c bistre-brown a. brown.

20c blue-green a. emerald green.

22½ dark green

25c violet. a. mauve

50c grey-bistre

1 g. violet-purple.

2 g. 50c rose and ultramarine.

(To be continued).

Contemporary Philatelic Literature

By VERA WESTON HANWAY

II. Fiction.

I have noticed in certain philatelic journals a tending to denounce the fiction and poetry that is becoming noticeable on various of our journals. Such things as "the space that should have been put to more valuable use was filed by fiction," is a common expression among certain classes of reviewers.

To my mind fiction, if good, serves to give the variety that is the spice of life. Why should it be denounced? A clever story pleasantly told is a "thing of beauty of joy." It may often times do the science more good than a five page article upon the varieties of a certain stamp. Not that I wish to condemn these exhaustive articles—far from it. I delight in them!—but without a little variety now and then they become—I hardly like to say a bore.

I am sorry to say, however, that really good stories are not as common as they might be. We have some good writers in our press—the advocates of the deep phases as well the light. Why do not these writers turn their brain now and then towards the bright, numerous and sentimental? In some cases it would be a positive relief.

But I beg pardon. It is the very sentimental side of these sermons that you dislike, is it not my dear contemporaries? O, the inconsistency of mankind! The sentimental side of your natures leads you to praise the beauty, the color, the engraving, the paper, all the numerous details, to gather, to champion. But fiction! Ah, that is too light a matter to bring within the grave temples

of this Prince of Hobbies.

These studious, searching minute essays are splendid things for the mentality of the collector-scientist. They are splendid things for the good of Philately. But why should not the other phases be shown? There are collectors who care for these exhaustive essays; there are also collectors who do not care two cents for them. But I do not think there is a man or woman in the land who would not read an interesting story. Philately is broad enough to admit of clever stories based upon it. And as missionary work to draw the novice within her portals there could be no better means. Be candid now my brethren, if you were back in the days when you knew nothing of philately, would not a philatelic story interest you more than an essay upon the subject?

The amount of philatelic fiction that is being given in non philatelic journals shows the trend of the times. The public is becoming interested—fiction serves as a good for this interest. I have known persons who have become ardent collections, whose interest was first aroused through philatelic fiction. I regret to say, however, that the fiction given minded person likes to bask in now and then. For though our hobby is made of the intellectual, and though the most of us care chiefly for this intellectual side, it is a fact that the heart will sometimes work in connection with the reason—else our hobby would not now be existing in its present flourishing condition. This is why it is inconsistent to decry the sentimental. Is there a person among my readers who is so incomplete that he has not a sentimental side? I think not, if there be I am sincerely for that person, for sentiment, or the power of feeling and

loving, is one of our divine attributes. But I do not believe there is any devotee of Philately who has not a strong dash of sentiment in his makeup—he may not be aware of it but it exists for all that.

Then there is the poetical work. Some humorous, some sentimental, some instructive. A certain journal does not fail to admit poetry to its columns (mostly reprinted) even while denouncing other journals for using "valuable space" for this purpose. Journals must yield to the popular demand.

I can recall some very fine gems of poetry that I have seen in our journals of late years—and "others."

Let us weed out the poor poetry and fiction and when fiction is published let it be of the best. Then, and not until then, will it be recognized as an important factor. For we poor humans cannot subsist on meat alone—we must have the sweets of life.

More Button Talk **F. E. H A L B E R T**

Agitate, keep the word moving. It seems that too much has already been said on the subject to let it drop now. Those who have been discussing the subject are not so very far apart in their ideas and opinions.

Several have written to me in regard to forming an "International Philatelic Emblem Association." I have no doubt that others have had correspondence on this vital matter also. Now I have this suggestion to make: Get the readers of the WEST who are interested in an emblem to vote for someone prominent in stamp matters to act as secretary. Said person to receive suggestions and designs until a certain date. With each design sent in, there should be a statement of reason for such par-

ticular design. Designs need not be accurately drawn. An ordinary pen and ink outline would do. The main thing would be to furnish the idea intended. When the time came for closing this preliminary matter, these designs together with the designers arguments for adoption would be printed altogether in any form the secretary thought best. These lists would then be sent to all who applied for them. Each person receiving these lists would be entitled to one vote for the design they thought to be the most appropriate. Everyone thus voting should agree to abide by the will of the majority. The question of raising money to defray the expenses of putting this matter to a vote I have purposely omitted for the suggestions of others. Contributions of stamps for an auction seems to me a feasible method. The person drawing the winning design should have some sort of reward for their effort.

Now, let everybody come forward with nominations for the office of Secretary-treasurer. The name "The United Philatelic Emblem Association," strikes me as being an appropriate one.

There are many who are capable of filling this position, but I presume that there are few who are willing to undertake it.

There should of course be some compensation for the work involved.

I would place in nomination the name of Walter F. Slusser, Fort Casey, Washington State. Let us hear from him. Mr. Slusser is an entire stranger to me, but I have reason to believe that he would fill the position acceptably. I have no "ax to grind" so the matter is immaterial to me so long as some competent person gets the office. It seems to me that the WEST should get a hearty vote of thanks for giving this button idea so much publicity.

Counterfeits and Their Detection

By R. R. THIELE

(Continued.)



Original.



Counterfeit.

NICARAGUA.

Above we have illustrations of an original and a counterfeit of the 25c green of Nicaragua, issue of 1869-71. This is the set perforated 12. The counterfeit before me is also perforated, but gauges $12\frac{1}{2}$ and the perforation is very ragged, as compared with the clean cut perforation of the original, which is characteristic of the American Bank Note Company's productions. The original is engraved in the best manner of line-engraving—in fact this set belongs to the best products of the engravers' art, as exemplified in postage stamps. The counterfeit is lithographed, like most of its kind, and none too good a lithograph at that. The color is rather a washed-out, pale sort of green, much duller than the deep, full green of the original. There are likewise numerous divergencies in the design. The numerals in the corners are all too small; those of the original are wide, while those of the forgery are quite narrow. The 2 of the original in all four corners has a well developed large ball at its head; on the counterfeit this is the case only in the right lower corner, while in the other corners the top of the 2 has only a rudimentary, insignificant ball, especially that in the left upper corner. The

top of the figures 5 in all four corners is also too small as compared with the original, where it is quite large. On the original the ball of the 2 comes very near the top of the figure, so that the figure is nearly closed at the front: on the counterfeits the ball is so far away from the top that the figure is wide open. (The figures 25 on the original, by the way, are not quite identical in all four corners; this can easily be seen by comparing the flags of the 5s.) The inscriptions are rather indifferently imitated on the forgery. The v and e of veinte in the upper label are too close together, so that they run into each other; the c of cinco is too far away from the i; the o of the same word is smaller than the other letters of the same word. (Our cuts are unfortunately not very clear, so that not all these points can be distinguished easily.) The N and I of Nicaragua in the right hand label are so clumsily joined that they almost resemble a capital M; the g and u of the same word run into each other. The letters of centavos are all too tall; the V of this word is blunt at the foot instead of being pointed as on the original; the upper horizontal stroke of the S in this word is too long, extending to the right as far as the middle curve of the letter, while on the genuine it is considerably shorter. The O and S of Correos on the original are very close to each other, while on the counterfeit there is a considerable space between them. The serifs of all the letters on the original are very thin and clear, as well as the hairlines; on the forgery the serifs are clumsy and thick. The central part of the design, the landscape, also differs, but it is impossible to convey a clear idea of the differences by means of words. The outlines of the hills are all but poorly imitated; the

tree is also a failure, the upper part of its crown being altogether too small. In the left side of the lower part the original tree has a long thin white streak running up to the stem of the tree; the counterfeit does not show this. Between the tree and the Phrygian cap on the central hill the original shows only faint streaks traces of the rays of the rising sun; on the counterfeit two very wide and distinct rays are visible in this space.

There were large remainders of the originals of this entire set; as a result these stamps—at least several of them, including this 25c—are cheaper unused than used. This being the case, the forger has thoughtfully provided his product with a “postmark,” consisting of four concentric circles with parallel lines within the innermost circle. The originals are found with a postmark of concentric circles, but there are only three circles and no lines within the inner one.

(To be continued.)

Reasons Why I Collect Stamps **C A R L J E A N L E Y**

Everyone has his favorite hobby, but for me I choose the collecting of stamps. Days when I am not busy and in the evenings, I will bring out my album and stamp collection to look them over, and I always wonder why it was that I did not commence collecting before I did, for I find that there is no hobby from which you can derive more pleasure, nor is there anything more fascinating or pleasing to the eye than a good and well chosen collection of stamps. I can while away what would be many idle hours, with my stamps and have the pleasure of knowing that it is time not wasted, but used to good advantage. If you have a good col

lection of stamps you have a World's History, Natural History and Geography combined, in fact a regular cyclopedia. By looking at the stamps of different countries I can see where and when an empire was changed, maps of different countries and many other interesting things. I will sit down and look over my collection. Here in one place I find an issue of stamps with the picture of an old man engraved on them; while on the next issue is the picture of a boy. What has happened? I look at the stamps again. I see it there as plain as day. The country has changed rulers, perhaps had an insurrection and one ruler overthrown by another, but most probably the kingdom has descended from father to son. On the Columbian issues of the United States I find the date of the discovery of America by Columbus, (I ought to remember that anyway,) and a number of scenes of incidents happening during Columbus' life. On the Canada issue of 1898 I find new map of the world and on many stamps from other countries are beautiful scenes of public buildings and natural curiosities from all parts of the globe also many pictures of different animals. Another glance at the stamps will show the names of all the different varieties of coins issued in the world. I could tell many more reasons why I collect stamps but I am like a noted writer, who trying for a long time to describe the lakes of Ireland, threw down his pen and exclaimed, “Beautiful.”

That is the way with a stamp collection. It is so beautiful it cannot be described. There is profit as well as pleasure in this hobby. Anyone who can is not a stamp collector, I advise them to commence at once for once a collector always a collector. You will come to love your stamps so much that you cannot do without them.

Hints on Collecting Stamps *By "BILL"*

There is no chance of collecting specimens of all the stamps that exist. But if you have five hundred you have done well; if you have a thousand, the book is well worth treasuring. Still, it is better to have one hundred stamps, and to know all about them, than to have a couple of thousand boastfully counted in an album, and not to know what they mean. In stamp collecting, as in every thing else, there is wisdom in doing "a little and well". As to the actual collecting, it is easy enough. They can be bought in packets or singly; they can be gathered among friends, sent by friends living abroad, or exchanged among school fellows, to supply the stamps wanted, by giving away those of which the collector has more than one. They can be gently taken off the adhering paper by dipping in water; but rare stamps, or those which have a raised pattern, like the Portugese, the best way of removing them from letters, is to lay them on very wet flannel, with the stamp kept dry; when the paper at the back is soaked, a few touches will bring it off. In a good stamp album there will be a list of the stamps belonging to the various countries and ruled spaces for putting the specimens in. But we maintain that an expensive album and a pocketful of money are not needed for foreign stamp collecting, and that the album may be filled and the pocket emptied and the collection, being badly done, might be worth little or nothing to the boy or girl who made it.

The great thing is intelligence, to know all the stamps as they are gathered one by one. If you have a stamp of Mauritius and do know

what head is upon it, and have a vague idea that Mauritius is a French possession in the north of South America, what good will there be in your stamp album, tho' you may pop in the Mauritius stamp at the right page and have the most wonderful ones to glory in as well, even the very rarest of Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Sandwich Islands? But if you hunt out Mauritius on the atlas, and find it to be an island to the east of that immense island of Madagascar, and if you know that the head is to represent the queen's dominion—that Mauritius, after belonging to the Dutch, and then to the French as "the isle of France," took it into its head to belong to itself, and became a nest of pirates, whose ship attacked and robbed ships going to India, and that after all this it came to the English Crown by treaty—then you have a right to put it in your album, and you know why it has English words on it.

You should know, too, what great man is represented on each of your U. S. stamps, and why, for there the ruling president's portrait is not on the stamps, but instead, the portraits of former presidents, or of other great Americans. Do not, then, be content, with noticing that the faces are different. Try to recognize them, and ask why they are called great, from Washington and Franklin to Garfield. The head of the Sphinx and the Pyramid on Egyptian stamps; the head of Mercury (the messenger of the gods in ancient Greek Mythology), on the Greek stamps and on some of the Austrian, the anchor and figure of hope on the stamps from the Cape of Good Hope, or the orange tree and posthorns on the stamps of the Orange Free State in Africa, ought all to set the stamp collector thinking until their various meanings are found out.

How He Got Rich *Remarks On Mexican* Fiscals

BY "FLOP"

G . H E L M R I C H

"It allus seemed", said old Si Green
To me almighty funny
How that young kid of Widow Jones'
Got hold of all his money.

Nobody ever saw him work
At least I never did
I allus sized him up to be
A good-fer-nuthin' kid.

Just how he allus wore good clothes
I couldn't figure out
Till last week he explained to me
Just how it came about.

It seems that down there in the mill
This kid was huntin' round
Fer what no one would ever dream
But this is what he found.

A bunch of letters--nohin' else—
The last thing you'll agree
A man would think was worth a rap
Because why should they be?

But what does that there youngster do
(It simply beats the earth)
But sell that bunch of canceled stamps
Fer more'n the old mill's worth

This selling cancelled postage stamps
Has got me beat—By Gum
I couldn't figger out the thing
From now till Kingdom come.

But here's the queerest part of all
Now don't it beat the Dutch
"The way they're watermarked,"
says he,

"Is why they're worth so much.

It must a been the flood we had
Way back in '63

But how that made 'em valuable
Is what's a botherin' me.

One badly damaged stamp frequently spoils the appearance of an entire page.

1. 25c 1878, left numeral is always printed 27.

2. 50c 1877 do do.

Besides these I have
1877 1c, left numeral I

5c " " 9

these two in both colors

1876 Surch. Habilitado 1877 in one line.

1, 3, 5, 10, 50c \$1. (25c must also exist)

5d with surcharge P A R A

I 8 L L

5. With surcharge mentioned by you I have 1, 2, 5, 10, 25, 50c, \$1, 5, 10. R. J. Jalisco 90-91, 91-92. I have several not perforated in the middle.

6. Hilaza & Tejidos exist of the following years. 1893-95, 1894-95, 95-6, 96-7, 97-8, 98-9, 99-00, 00-01, 01-02, 02-03, 03-4, 04-5, and each set consist of 5c, 20c 1\$, 5, 20, 100.

The surcharge of towns is done because the Revenue Stamp agents get percentage on the sale of their stamps and a stamp is only allowed to be used in the state whose surcharge it has.

If it is possible get acquainted with some other collector in your town. He or she may have some duplicate stamps to trade or may be able to impart some information of value.

The Philatelic society of Holland is about to publish a catalogue of the stamps of its country. The volume cannot be one of ordinary size for the most slight differences in paper, type, design and perforation will be mentioned.



DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY.

By L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis.

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address, and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

207. "What is the relative value between entire envelopes and the 'square cuts?'" The entire stamped envelopes are always preferable, because they can be cut at any time, when the owner desires, while the cut stamp can never be turned into an entire envelope again. Barring other circumstances, this alone should make the "square cut" worth only about half of what the entire envelope is worth. Otherwise the laws of supply and demand apply here as well as everywhere else. I, for one, make it a rule never to cut an envelope unless it is already so mutilated that, as a whole, it looks bad, and even then I try to keep as large a margin as possible. On the other hand, if I get an envelope stamp cut to shape, I will not destroy or discard it, if it is not of the very commonest kinds, because the stamp is the essential thing for the "stamp" collector and may serve for many purposes (study, comparison, illustration) very nearly as well as the entire envelope. An additional circumstance in the case of used entire envelopes is that they preserve the postmarks and in them a history of the use of the stamps and envelope. This, of course, applies as well to adhesives on the original cover. As a rule, I would say: Let everything remain as much as possible in its original state, because

changes can be made later on at any time; but after once a thing has been cut, soaked or altered, it can never be restored to its original state. The more valuable the piece is, the more important is the observation of this rule and may, in some cases, mean a difference of a hundred dollars or more.

208. "What countries are the most popular with stamp collectors?" That depends upon the time at which and the country in which the collectors live. Historical events, wars or anything that brings one or a group of countries, into general interest tend to make the countries involved popular with stamp collectors. The horrible earth-quake and volcanic eruption on Martinique brought the stamps of that and other French Colonies to prominent attention. The war between Russia and Japan makes the stamps of these countries popular for a time. Philatelic events, as new discoveries, a great sale, or the publication of a new book, as well as the production of some meritorious articles on any group of stamps may produce special interest for the stamps concerned. Then also we have local popularity, as the collectors of every country will naturally prefer the stamps of that country in which they live. In the United States the U. S. and Dependencies stamps are No. 1; in Great Britain, British and British Colonial stamps take the lead; in France French stamps are ahead of all others etc. My advice, based on my personal experience as well as a little reasoning, is leave the most popular stamps alone—for a while at least—and cultivate the unpopular and neglected. You will not have to pay so fancy prices and after awhile your favorites may become other people's favorites too, when you are a little ahead of

the general run.

209. "What is the value of a U. S. 3c rose of 1863 used in the Confederate states and bearing a surcharged numeral 3?" Market value there is none, except the common value of the 3c U. S. 1863. But there is a philatelic value, if it can be shown that the stamp was really used as indicated. In order to get this proof we would have to answer the following questions Did the postmaster sell the stamp with the numeral 3 surcharged on it? If so, what postmaster was it? How long were stamps of this description used at his office? On the other hand, if one letter—or more—was mailed at a Southern office with a U. S. stamp on it, and the postmaster did not accept it as evidence of postage prepaid, and surcharged the numeral 3 on the letter as evidence that 3 cents had been paid in hand at the time of mailing, or as evidence of 3 cents postage due, then the stamp has no further value than the value of any other 3c stamp of that year with an unusual or curious cancellation. As a curiosity, especially if it remains on the original letter, it certainly has a claim to be considered.

210. "What is the real object of the St. Louis World's Fair?" This is not exactly a philatelic question, but because the fair is connected with a special issue of stamps, I think, we shall have to let the question pass. The object is to excel or outdo others to break the record and to win prominence as in horse and automobile races, war, games and the like. If St. Louis and the U. S. can do more than all others, they are at the top.

211. "What bird is that on the stamps of Guatemala?" It is the Quezal (written also Quesal, Quetzal and Cuetzal) or Feather bird, a species of climbers found in Guatemala

only. It is scientifically called *Pharomarcus mocino* or *Trogon resplendens*, is related to the parrot and frequently mistaken for one. Some perhaps may call it Paradise Bird. It is the size of a turtle dove. The male bird has beautiful long tail-feathers, 3 to 3½ feet, of golden green color, while the lower parts of the bird are a vivid scarlet. The female is less ornamented. The Aztec Kings used the plumes of the cock as a royal ornament, and most likely considered it sacred as they had a deity called Quetzal-coat (Feather-snake). Their name for the bird was Quetzal-tototl, and Quetzal is found as an element in many Aztec compound names. There are other species of birds akin to the Quezal found throughout South America, but none quite equal the Guatemalan species. The killing of one of these birds in Aztec times was punished as a crime, but since the Spanish invasion the male has been much hunted, and the native women now weave its feathers into beautiful ornaments. As a royal and sacred bird it has found a place on the stamps of the country which is its exclusive home.

212. "What U. S. stamps have been surcharged?" It is said that during a shortage of postage due stamps in June 1895 at Detroit, Mich. the 1 and 2c regular stamps were surcharged "Due 1" and "Due 2" and for seven days (June 21 to 27th) were used as due stamps. A similar report comes from Winside, Nebraska, involving the dates July 20th and August 6th 1895. In both cases the surcharges were of local make and for local use.

When the Spanish American war necessitated the use of documentary and proprietary revenue stamps and these could not be furnished in due

time the government overprinted the 1 and 2c postage stamps "I. R." for the use as revenues, 1c in red (2 types) and 2c in blue.

After the U. S. postal administration had taken in hand the postal matters of Cuba, Guam, Porto Rica and Philippine Islands regular U. S. stamps were surcharged, in black, with the names of these countries for use there and with change of value expressed in Spanish. (See Scott's Catalogue, Cuba No. 221 to 226 and 301 to 315; Guam, No. 1 to 10; Porto Rica No. 210 to 303; Philippine Islands; No. 202 to 256.) Envelopes were treated similarly.

Department stamps have been surcharged "specimen" to make them non-available for postage, and good only as samples. The \$5.00 Periodical was surcharged for use as a revenue.

A rumor that the 2c Jackson 1862 had been surcharged I cannot explain.

Washington Notes

The precanceled stamps will soon be a close chapter in United States Postal issues. About all the circulars received now have the rubber stamped or printed endorsement provided for by the new regulations for mailing 2000 or more identical pieces.

The report of the Bureau of Engraving & Printing for the fiscal year 1904 shows much activity in the direction of stamp printing both postage and revenue.

At the request of the Secretary of War, plates for a series of silver certificates for the Philippine Islands, known as the series of 1903 and in the denominations of 2, 5, and 10 pesos, and 220,000 sheets of the 10 pesos

5, notes to each sheet, were delivered. The certificates were made smaller than the United States certificates to permit of ready identification: the 2 pesos is in blue, the five in red and the 10 in brown.

The summary of the years work at the Bureau shows

Internal-Revenue stamps	57,252,030 sheets
Customs stamps	336,000 sheets
Postage stamps, U S	54,992,230 "
Cuba	202,668 "
Philippines	49,718 "

There were no three centavo stamps printed for Cuba, and this stamp, in consideration of the number that were used to provide the provisional one-cent, should be fairly a good one.

Of the St. Louis series enough were printed to supply all collectors, but there is a strong probability that many of them will be turned in at the end of their period of sale, and it is hardly possible to predict the number of used specimens that will be available.

Fewer 10 cent values have been distributed than of any other, but even here over four millions have been put out.

Some of the internal revenue stamps are printed in small numbers, comparatively speaking, while the stamps for strip tobacco run into the billions.

It is rumored that in 1905 Spain will issue a series of stamps to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the writing of Cervantes's "Don Quixote."

Inscriptions on Stamps

L . G . D O R P A T

(Continued.)

By the way: The Japanese card has the stamp in the upper left corner, and the inscription under it reads downward.

On the cards of 1876 we find the familiar legend "Tai Nippori, Yubin," Japanese Posts, and the denomination on the stamp; "Yubin Hagaki" below; and in double column beneath "Kono Hyomenh Ni Wa Shukusho Seimei Wo Kagiri Shitatmu Beshi," "On this side nothing is to be written but the residence and name." The inscription on the frame reads "Tai Nippon Sei Teilkoku Seifu Okurasho Insatsukyoku Seizo," "Made at the Printing Bureau of the Department for Finance of the Japanese Imperial Government." The reply card of this issue has, in addition, the words "Hasshin Yo," "for the despatch" on one half, and "Henjin Yo," "for the reply" on the other.

The cards of 1879 present lettering on the stamps and frames similar to that on the previous issue, while the main inscription runs: "Banboku Yukin Rengo Hagaki," "Universal Postal Union card." The return halves of the reply card bear the words "Henjin" i. e. reply.

The one-sen card of the current issue shows "a Nippon Teiko Ku Yubin," "Japanese Imperial Posts" and the denomination, on the stamp in the left upper corner. "Yubin Hagaki" "postal card" appears in large characters on the frame to the right of the stamp. In the right hand column is the inscription "Kono Hyomen etc," as on the 1876 series, and in the left hand column is a new instruction: "Naatebito No Shukusho Wa Naate Yori Daisho Su-

beshi," which tells us that the name of the city in which addressee resides should be written in larger characters than addressee's personal designation—the contrary custom being prevalent in Japan. The characters at the foot of the card are the same as in the previous issue, except that the symbols representing "Okurasho," Department of Finance, are omitted. The 4 sen card has similar inscriptions and in addition there appear in the right lower corner the words "Kono Hyomen Ni Wa Atena Wo Shitatamu Beshi." "The address to be written on this side.

The instructions (Kisoku, etc.) on the second "page" of the early issue are too lengthy to reproduce here, but are to the effect that the cards are intended for the transmission of unimportant messages of a general nature: that the half-sen card is for urban and the one-sen for general use; that additional stamps must be affixed under certain conditions; that a rebate of 5 per cent is allowed when not less than 200, cards are purchased at one time; etc., etc.

It may perhaps please some of our readers to get a list of Japanese cards issued up to 1900. I give them according to Senf's catalogue,

1873

1 ½ sen, brownish-yellow, white paper, red border

2. 1 sen blue, white paper, red border
1874

3. ½ sen, brownish-yellow, white paper, brownish yellow border.

4. 1 sen blue white paper, blue border.

5 ½ sen same as No 3, with changed inscription on stamp.

6. 1 sen same as No. 4 with changed inscription on stamp.

1785

7. ½ sen orange, buff paper, circ stamp

8. 1 sen blue, pink paper circ stamp.

(Continued.)

The Pearl of Philately **OLD RED SANDSTONE**

Pearl, who was staying with her aunt, had an ardent philatelist for an admirer. She was much too young to be married or even engaged her aunt thought.

Pearl knew Philatelic and stamps were related but had little idea of the value of either. She was however, pleased with Paul and was therefore delighted when she received an invitation to a fancy dress party to be given at Paul's home in honor of his coming birthday. Pearl's aunt thinking to have something novel in a costume for her niece, caused various packs of old letters to be brought from the store room. Letters franked with old fives, tens, and scarce locals, many from California during the gold fever period from Pearl's uncles. Aunt Emily was ignorant of their value but she had an idea, beyond decorating china. When Pearl appeared among the guests she was decked in a white gown decorated with early U. S. stamps festooned carefully into the lace and ribbon bows of each shoulder and following the line of the yoke front and back, some thirty, ninety cent blue, beautified the waist. The skirt was trimmed with red and brown Jefferson in rows pointed with old locals, forming a panel on each side of the front. The lace falling over the edge framing the stamps as in a picture. A butterfly bow decked her hair, made of ribbon and lace covered with stamps, where a diamond glistened against more intrinsic value of which Pearl was unconscious. Such a waste of values was never before known by the curio dealer.

"Paul," said Aunt Emily, "How

do you like Pearl?" "I would give three thousand dollars for her just as she is. There are that many rare stamps floating to the music." "I think you like the dress better than the wearer," said Pearl. "I admire one, and love the other as becomes a philatelist, and a lover" replied Paul. Some of the stamps decorations of Pearl's party dress became part of Paul's famous collection.

When another birthday entertainment was given Paul, Pearl danced again, as dazzling and beautiful as on the former occasion, only she had discarded the stamp issues for glittering gems.

Paul now boasts that he has a wife who is truly philatelic. "Why," he says "when I first knew her she carried her collection with her wherever she went. And even as a child her collection was noteworthy."

The inscription on the coupon attached to some of the Belgium stamps falling into the hands of collectors, reads: "Do not deliver on Sundays." Thus anyone desiring to keep strict observance of the Sabbath, simply applied the stamp with the coupon attached, while those desiring immediate delivery of their mail, even on Sunday, secured it by tearing off the coupon.

The 5-centavos envelope of the 1898 series of Nicaragua has been surcharged "Stabilitado." Four new official provisionals have been issued by the country—the 1 cenavos of 10c violet, of 1902.; 2c on 3c, green, 1900 issue; 4c on 10c violet, 1902 issue, and the 5c on 3c green, of 1900. The provisionals are all surcharged "Official" and the new value.

The Attempts of Our Government to Prevent the Counterfeiting of Postage Stamps

W M E A V L T

The average collector learns of the grills, watermark, etc., on our stamps, but never knows, or inquires into the reason therefor.

The United States has been no exception to the rule that Governments use every effort to keep their postage stamps from being re-used. A collection of proofs and essays will show the many and various ways used to prevent such an occurrence. It is said that in this country as many as 34 patents have been issued with a view of preventing the cleaning and re-use of stamps, but it seems only a few were even thought of sufficient merit to warrant their trial.

At the outbreak of the Civil War the Government issued an order to the Postmasters of all the loyal states to return the stamps of the 1857 issue and at the same time sent out a supply of the stamps of the new design of 1861. This was done to prevent the fraudulent use of stamps in the hands of postmasters of the Confederate States

The first effort to prevent counterfeiting was in 1867 when our stamps appeared with a grill, or embossed, which broke the paper in small points so that when a stamp was cancelled the ink would penetrate instead of spreading over the surface. The grill appears of points to a grill covering the entire stamp. This grill was covered by Patent No. 70147 issued to Charles Sterle, Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1867. The National Bank Note Co., secured control of this patent and this fact had a great deal to do in helping this company secure

the contract for printing our stamps in the fall of 1868.

The grill was continued in the 1869, 1870-71, 1873 and 1875 issues, but it was found that the grill did not produce the desired result and was discontinued entirely at the latter date.

The next process for preventing illegal use of the stamps was used in 1873, when the 3c stamp of that issue appeared with the paper cut with "a cog-wheel die." This is rightfully called the Fletcher Grill, taking its name from the patentee, C. A. Fletcher, to whom was issued Patent No. 91198, June 1869, and consists of eight U-shaped punches placed with the openings outward, very suggestive of a cogwheel, which gives it its common name.

The 1873 issue seems to have been experimented on to a great extent, as some of the stamps were printed and on chemically prepared paper of brown, pink and violet tints, but few of these stamps were ever used, as is also the case with the preceding stamp. Paper treated as above is very sensitive and any attempt to remove the cancellations could at once be seen. It is also said that the 2c black and 3c red of 1861-63 issue were so treated under a formula of Dr. Francis of New York.

Another experiment tried on the 1873 issue was that of Patent No. 86952, issued to Charles F. Steel, of New York for a double paper, this being a very thin surface paper upon which the design is printed, pasted to a thicker paper. The supposition was that any attempt to clean off the cancelling ink would destroy the former paper. The Coin and Stamp Journal for January 1877 says that 20,000,000 of stamps were issued on this paper, but this statement I am inclined to think is certainly an over

estimate, for if that quantity had been printed the stamps would be much commoner than they are.

A somewhat similar Patent No. 169125, was granted the same party March 15, 1875; this was for printing stamps on a soft paper, something like blotting paper, and the paper after printed, being subjected to a very heavy pressure, after which the stamps were gummed and handled in the regular way. The claim made was that on attempting to clean the stamp, the paper being necessarily wetted, would readily wash away. Some few stamps were thus printed but none used postally.

In 1882 the 1c and 3c appeared treated under still another patent. This was issued to Douglas & Steele and was printed on the double paper of 1873, but before printing eight small round holes, arranged in a circle, (each group of eight so arranged that it would fall on a stamp) were punched out of the surface paper. The finished stamps appeared like ordinary stamps but of course ink had passed through the holes and part of the design was printed on the backing paper. An attempt to clean the stamp would result in the tearing of the thin sheet and if the stamp was soaked the two parts of the stamp would separate one showing the holes and the other a blank piece paper with a circle of colored dots. This patent was not used beyond the experimental stage by the Government.

The last effort on the part of the United State to prevent counterfeiting was in 1895 when the then current 2c stamp was counterfeited in Chicago and the government then proceeded to issue its stamps on paper watermarked U. S. P. S. which has since been continued. Up to this date unwatermarked paper had been used for printing all postage

stamps.

In 1898-1900 our Government tried several methods to prevent the re-use of revenue stamps, by changing tools, overprinting and cancelling by cuts, but it is not the intention to deal with the revenue stamps.

CZAR AND CANADIAN BOY.

In spite of the grave pre-occupations caused by the momentous events in the Far East the Emperor of Russia recently found time to perform a remarkable act of kindness to one whom he had never seen—a Canadian boy of eleven, living in Hamilton, Ontario, says the Hamilton Times, Oct. 8.

Greatly daring, writes our Toronto correspondent this youth who is an enthusiastic stamp collector, boldly wrote to the Czar asking for a collection of Russian postage stamps. His Majesty was pleased to accede to the request of the precocious philatelist, who a few weeks ago received a handsome album containing a complete set of all the stamps issued by the Russian postoffice, in addition to a splendid assortment of local and departmental varieties.

The album which I have been permitted to examine, is a magnificent specimen of the book binder's art. The covers are of embossed Russian leather. On the front is emblazoned in gold the Russian escutcheon, and on the back the Imperial monogram, surmounted by a crown, while the flyleaf displays the Czar's autograph.

The collection of stamps is estimated to be worth several hundred pounds.

Numbers Employed to Indicate The Value of Postage Stamps.

FRANK L. APPELATE
Yainax, Oregon

Continued from last months WEST.

Den.	Country	First country to issue and date.	Coinage.
22	Salvador	1890 envelope	22c yellow
22½	Netherlands	1888	22½c green
24	Sweden	1855	240 verm
25	France	July 1, 1850	25c blue
26	Salvador	1898	26c brown
27	Roumania-Moldavia	1858	27 para, rose
28	Ceylan	1885 surch	28c on 48c rose.
30	Brazil	1843	30c black
31	Macao	1894 surch	31a on 200 avos violet
32	Straits Settlements	1867 surch	32c yellow oval block
35	Austria	1861 envelope	35 kr light brown
36	Ceylon	1872	36c blue
37½	Luxemburg	1859	37½c green
48	Mauritius	1878 surch	38c on 9d violet
40	France	Die 1849	40c orange
45	Austria Lombardy Venice	1850	45c blue
47	Macao	1894 surch	47a on 300 ovas, orang
48	Hong Kong	Oct. 1862	48c rose
50	Romon States	1852	50b blue
54	Roumania-Moldavia	1858	54 para blue
56	Ceylon Surcharge	1885	56c on 96c slate
60	Brazil	1843	60 reis black
62	Philippines	1872	62c lilac
64	Ceylon	1862	64c red brown
65	San Marino	1894	65c red brown
70	Wurtemberg	1869-73	70h mauve
72	United States	1775 News	72c carmine
75	France	1876	75c carmine
78	Macao	1900	78 avos red and blk.
80	France	1854	80c lake
81	Roumania-Moldavia	1858	81 para blue on blue
84	United States	1875 News	84c carmine
85	Mirico	1875 Pde Mac	85c black on yellow
90	Brazil	1843	90 reis black
96	Hong Kong	1862	96c grey
100	Portugal	1823	100r lilac
108	Roumania-Mold	1858	108 para blue on rose
115	Portugal	1898	115r red brn on rose
120	Uruguay	1859	120c blue
125	Philippines	1878	125 mills blue
130	Portugal	1998	130 r grey brn on buff
150	Portugal	1875	150r blue
180	Brazil	1844-46	180 r black
200	Brazil	1866	200 r black
240	Uruguay	1857	240c verm.
250	Philippines	1879	250 mills bistre
260	Brazil	1878-9	260 r brown
280	Brazil	1861	280 r red
300	Brazil	1844-6	300 r black
400	Spain	1870	400 mills green
430	Brazil	1854	430 r yellow
500	Brazil	1866	500 orange
600	Brazil	1844-46	600 r black
700	Brazil	1878-79	700 r red brown
900	Portugese India	1872	900 r red violet
1000	Brazil	1878-79	1000 r grey
2000	Brazil	1894-95	2000 r slate and violet

A Catalogue of the Stamps of Trinidad with Notes

W M . E . A V L T

(Continued).

c. Third Stage, 1856. The lines of the background are less distinct than the second printing, being rather faint.

1. Yellowish paper.

(1d) blue

(1d) greenish blue

d. Fourth stage, 1858.

There now remain only faint traces of the lines of the backgrounds.

1 yellowish paper

(1d) blue

(1d) gray blue

(1d) greenish blue

e. Fifth stage, 1806. The lines of the background have entirely disappeared.

(1d) blue

(1d) gray blue

(1d) gray

(1d) red

(1d) bright red

(1d) dull red.

Only a few of the stamps printed in red were used.

III. Third Issue. 1859-1863.

The third set of stamps for this colony were issued May 9, 1859, engraved and printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., on white wove paper. The design (Scott type A 3) is similar to the first issue, but the word *Trinidad* now appears in colorless capitals in a curved line above the figure of Britannia, and the value in similar letters in a straight line below, except the one penny stamp, which is of the same type as the first issue.

Unwatermarked.

a. Imperforate. May 9, 1859.

(1d) rose-red

4d gray lilac 4d dull lilac

6d green

6d blue green

6d yellow green

1s slate blue

1s indigo.

b. Pin-perforated 12½. Sept. 1859.

(1d) rose-red

(1d) carmine-lake

4d violet

4d brown-lilac.

6d green

1s deep purple

c. Pin-perforated.

(1d) rose-red

(1d) carmine

4d brown-lilac

4d violet

4d dull purple

4d gray-lilac

6d green

6d yellow green

1s dark purple.

d. Clear cut Perforation 14 to 15½. Aug. 1860.

(1d) rose-red

(1d) lake

4d brown-lilac

4d dull mauve

4d violet

4d violet-brown

6d violet-brown

6d green

6d yellow-green

1s deep purple

A variety of the 1d lake exists which is imperforate vertically.

e. Rough Perforation 14 to 16½. June 1861.

(1d) rose.

(1d) rose-red

4d brown-lilac

4d gray-lilac

4d violet

4d purple

4d dull mauve

6d green

6d blue-green

1s indigo

1s blackish purple

1s lilac-blue

1s slate-blue

1s deep blue.

(To be Continued.)

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS

It pleases us greatly to present to our readers this month, the likeness and sketch of Mr. J. T. Starr of Coldwater, a Michigan stamp dealer. Mr. Starr first began the collecting of the bits of paper when yet a boy and has continued it with varying degrees of enthusiasm ever since.

During the years 1881-1882, Mr. Starr was in the stamp business with Chas. Champion, now prosecuting attorney for Branch county. Dealers in those days were a scarce commodity and Starr and Champion did a flourishing business. We have been favored with a price list of the firm in those days and note such articles as U. S. Postoffice set, 70c; U. S. Interior set, 60; War, 15 and 24c, 4c; Periodical, 2 and 3c, 6c. No doubt but that if they had continued in business, they would have today the second largest concern in the United States. A few years later the capital of both parties was with drawn by mutual consent.

In 1897 Mr. Starr with his two sons launched the J. T. Starr Stamp Co., and have done a large yearly increasing business since. The business was first carried on in their own home, but they were shortly obliged to remove to more commodious quarters. At present the entire third floor of the Starr building in the main business portion of his city is devoted to the concern and in the busy season employs a number of clerks.

The company is famed far and wide for their courtesy and promptness and the huge success with which they have met may be largely attributed to their motto. "Small expenses, small profit, large stock of all lines, nothing held for speculation, personal and prompt attention, whether buying or selling, is what

we believe in."

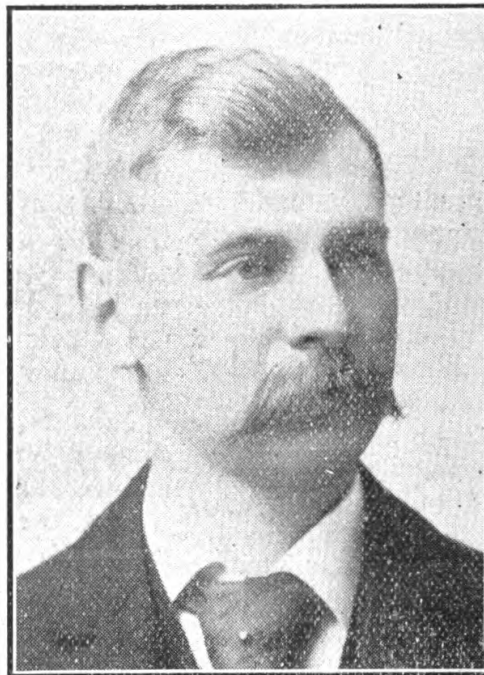
Mr. Starr is also interested in nearly every business proposition in the vicinity, being a director of the Coldwater National Bank, the largest in the city, and also owning considerable property in various lines.

Miss N. Mae Leonard was born early one Sunday morning a number of years ago, near Newark, New York. As a child she had a decided taste for drawing and as she grew older oil and water colors were used. Her paintings have been seen in many art exhibitions. During the past two years she has spent much time on pen and ink work and her comic sketches are well known in some of the magazines and papers. The camera takes up much of her attention and she has been called one of "nature's best photographers." She is an I. P. E. member, but is for the present in class three. Miss Leonard is of a fun loving disposition, and always sees the comic side of life. Her dogs and cats are well trained and often act as models for her camera. She is also a souvenir card collector. This month's cover is one of her designs.

ARCHAEOLOGY of Southern Michigan, by J. England: But little has been written regarding the prehistoric implements of this locality, (Tuscola County) although this is a good field in which to study the remains of prehistoric man. Very fine specimens of flint and stone implements are easily obtained. Mostly all are surface finds. Pottery is occasionally unearthed at a depth of several feet, and is sometimes found in the bed of dry water courses. To my knowledge, no whole pottery has been found. (Only fragments). The pottery found is very hard and brittle, and some of the specimens on



Miss N. Mae Leonard, Newark, N. Y.



J. T. Starr, Coldwater, Mich.



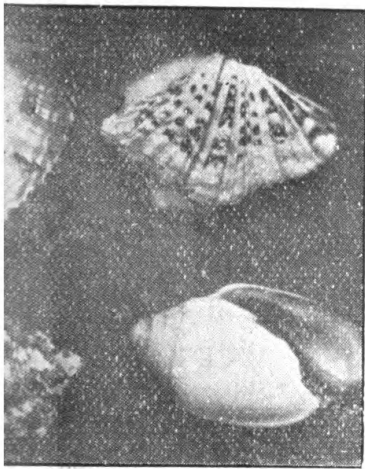
Some C



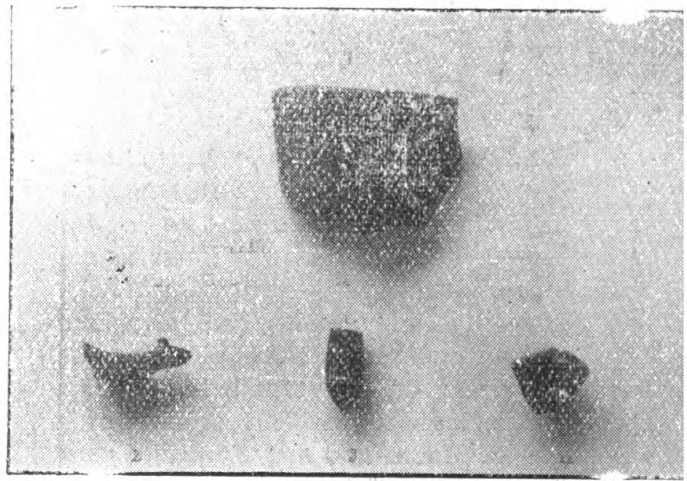
A few of the Indian
C. Hope, C



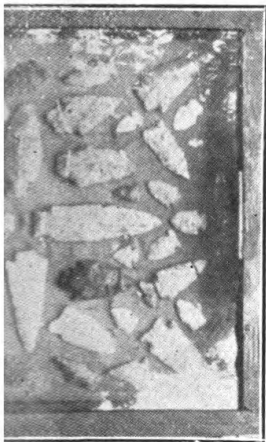
Original from
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



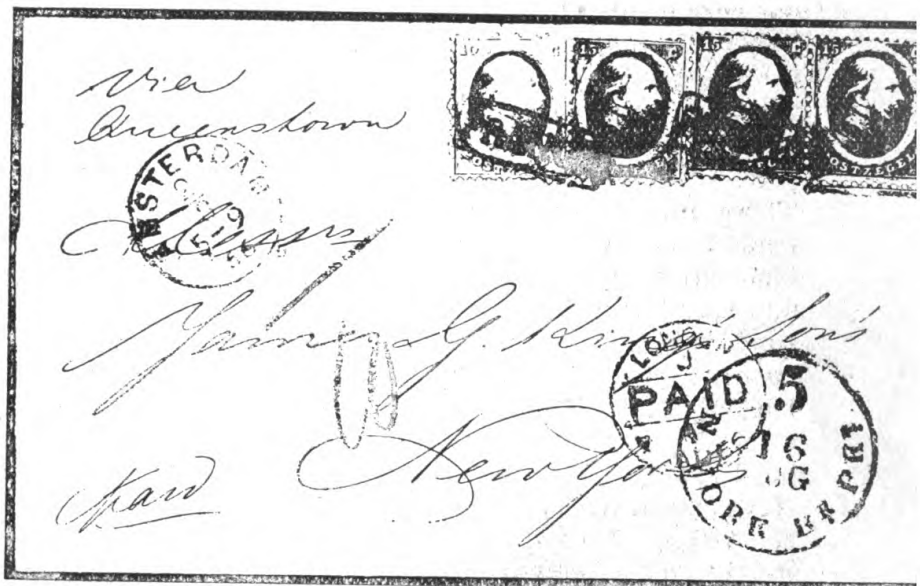
California Shells



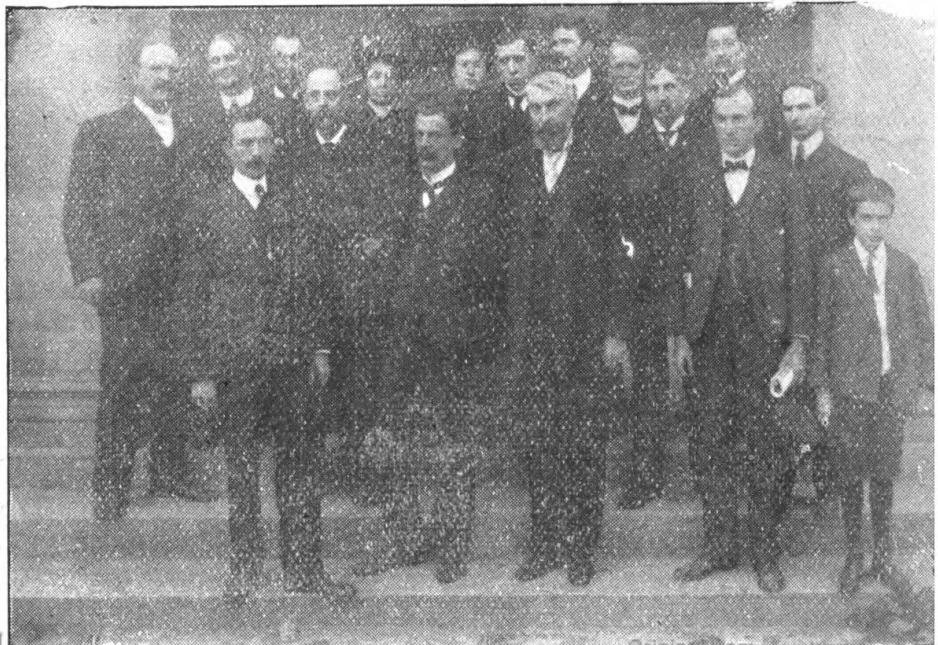
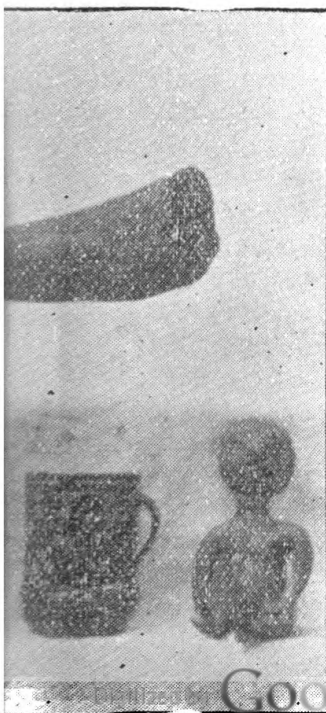
Michigan Indian Relics of J. England.



Public Collection of
St. Louis, Mo.



A Scarce Stamp Cover.



American Numismatists at St. Louis. UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

hand show having been heated to a very high temperature. The tempering material used appears to be of a very fine quartz like sand. The ornamentation is similar to that of other regions, being composed of various designs of lines, dots, etc. (See Fig 1.) little or no paint being used in decorating. Celts and stone adzes are common and are usually of very fine workmanship, and some are highly polished. Large grooved axes are not very plentiful. Arrow and spear heads are found of flint only, and those present a great variety of forms and sizes, as also do drills and scrapers. I have in my collection two pipes and one bird-stone ceremonial. Those are scarce. Pipe (Fig. 3) is made from a very hard quality of jet black stone and is absolutely perfect, and very finely finished. Both pipes were evidently fitted with wooden stems. Pipe (Fig. 4) is soft of a greyish material. Birdstone (Fig. 2) is a typical specimen and is made of a hard quality of striped black stone. Net sinkers are sometimes found near streams or old village sites, and are usually small stones about two or two and one half inches in diameter, with a hole drilled through the center, or instead, sometimes a groove is cut entirely around. Pestles, which were used in grinding corn are quite plentiful, and consist of the usual forms as, the bell shape, and the long cylindrical type, which average from twelve to sixteen inches in length, and from two and one half to four inches in diameter. Mortars are very scarce, none have been found that I know of.

It is much easier to get too much type than white space in an ad. The former is a very prevailing fault with mail order advertisers, while the latter is very much the exception.

BUSINESS MANAGERS SAY

Advertisers who wish ad in the Christmas number must get copy in at once for many page ads are now all ready at hand and will have more and better illustrations than any number so far got out, as well as extra large circulation and hope to have a new mailing machine in use then that all may be sure to get the magazine sent them in better shape. Send your ad copy in at once by next mail.

Our last contest was mislaid. The following have notified us, any others? Miss E. L. Locke and G. Ashby of Wisconsin, Wolcott of Oklahoma, W. P. Young of New Hampshire, B. Wilson, of Illinois, Wellington Breeze of New York, H. C. Jennings of Nebraska, C. C. Brink of Iowa, and Mason of California.

Am sure there were more and hope the rest will send word at once per notice last month. Pleased to see more MSS from above. Trust all may send in so can have contest closed in the next number.

The 11th sale of B. F. Greene of Chicago closed on the 17th. The coins brought very satisfactory prices. The 1826 proof half cent brought \$10.00; 1793 wreath cent v. g. \$6.75; 1856 flying eagle cent, unc. \$3.10; 1837 proof 2c piece \$3.10; 1864 very fine silver 3c piece \$3.50; 1797 fine half dime \$7.00; 1796 and 1797 half dollars very good \$90.00 for the pair; 1815 half dollars \$4.20; 1776 dollar v. g. \$5.25; 1798 fifteen stars v. g. \$6.40; same thirteen stars small eagle \$5.00; 1803 fine \$4.50; 1854 Ex. fine \$7.10; 1855 very fine \$6.00; a set of Redback fractional currency, printed signatures, brought \$10.50; the collection of Masonic mark pennies, 165 Chapters, brought 25c each. The 1804 dollar sold in N. Y. to a Chicago collector for \$1100.



BY ROY FARREL GREENE, A S o f C C

At the Toedteberg sale of autograph letters held not long ago a love letter of the poet Keats brought the top price of the session. It was one of the passionate outpourings of his heart to the stolid and commonplace Fanny Brawne, whom he idealized with all the virtues and graces of the mythology and it brought \$210. A long letter of Abraham Lincoln on the Mexican question, written in 1848, sold for \$200. A whole correspondence of David Garrick fetched but \$180, notes by various kings sold for such insignificant sums as \$3 and \$4 each, while Edgar Allen Poe, Benjamin Franklin, Edmund Kearn and Washington Irving letters ran from \$25 to \$55 each. It was the surprise of the sale that an old love letter of Keats should receive the highest bid of anything offered.

J. W. Lostutler of Emporia, Kansas, is the owner of a couple of old almanacs which he values highly though he does not claim to be a curio hunter or collector. They are the Kentucky Farmers' Almanacs for the years 1805 and 1810, and are, of course, using f for s, and the old forms of spelling. They contain besides the regular almanac features witty sayings and stories of the great men of that day. They are so old they have turned yellow and are so worn from handling that the edges are torn and ruffled and look very much as though they had gone

through fire. They have been in the Lostutler family ever since they were published. In the day they were issued people had to buy almanacs instead of having them handed to them free as we do now.

Down in the neighborhood of Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, which is in the Cherokee nation, relics have recently been discovered which seem to prove that years before the advent of the United States government the country now included in the borders of the Indian Territory was inhabited by Spaniards. In many places about Fort Gibson mining tools, old furnaces and other evidences of extensive mining operations have been found and lately an old Spanish graveyard on a farm three miles southwest of the old fort. A man who worked this farm with his after some twenty years ago says that at that time there were nearly one hundred graves there marked by stones made of native material cut in the form of crosses. There were perhaps 200 more stones that were plain. Some of the stones bore inscriptions and the man says none of them bore a later date than 1796. The man quoted moved to Kentucky some eighteen years ago and only recently came back to Fort Gibson. He finds that most of the stones have been used for chimneys or for walling wells. The man says that twenty years ago he talked with a Cherokee

Indian, then in ninty years old, who knew of Spaniards living in that vicinity and of fierce battles the Indians had with them.

A letter to the editor some months ago from H. L. Johnson of Clarkville, Tenn., contained some interesting figures in connection with the size and weight of three stone axes found in that locality and now reposing in his archaeological collection.

One of the axes is twelve and one-half inches long, seven and one-half inches wide, three and three-fourths inches thick, and weighs sixteen pounds; another is sixteen and one-fourth inches long, six and one-half inches thick, seven and one-half inches wide and weighs twenty-eight and three-fourths pounds, the third, (a diminutive specimen, indeed) is one and five-eighths inches long, one inch wide and three-fourths of an inch thick, weighing but three-fourths of an ounce. All the specimens are in perfect condition, Mr. Johnson writes, and are beautifully finished. He says he is quite sure the largest one could not have been used for driving stakes as the head of the axe is cone-shaped and could not strike square. He thinks it would be a fine implement for crack-
ing ice.

It is a well known fact that taxidermists having quarters in the big cities always get their birds skins for mounting far out in the western country or the south, but the editor has always believed the reason for this to be that only in woodland haunts "far from the maddening crowd" could desirable specimens be found. It seems from the remarks of a museum curator in Chicago, however, that there is another, and perhaps better reason. This curator in a newspaper interview is quoted as

saying that the bird skins collected in Chicago are actually not fit to handle. The atmosphere of the city is smoky, dirty and thick which seems to make the plumage of the birds rendered unfit for being smoothed out and mounted nicely. "We have got so we so very much prefer bird skins that are collected elsewhere," he says "and while we have a large collection of Chicago birds we procure them, whenever we can, from other sources." Arizona, California, Mexico and Central America are the sources of greatest supply with taxidermists now, and even South America and the West Indies are being searched each season of late by enterprising collectors of the most desirable bird skins. Albino specimens, and oddities are to be met with more frequently, too, in the less thickly populated countries, which partially explains why taxidermists are looking for their supplies of skins farther and farther from home.

Near Marlow, England, has been discovered a quarry whence men of the stone age got flints to make their knives and weapons. In it was found, among other relics of the old workers, a pick of stag's antlers, used by the prehistoric miner in making his gallery. The site was called locally "Grimes' graves," and consisted of a number of holes or pits sunk in the ground. It was found that these Norfolk pits were made by miners in search of clear and large flints, the ready-made material for cutlery chipped from stone. These ancient workers had quite as keen an instinct for finding the best bed of flint as a modern prospector has for a bed of gold-bearing quartz, and somehow found out that about thirty feet below the surface there was a bed of the largest silicious pebbles in England. They therefore sank the

"graves" and ran the galleries from them. In these galleries were found not only the flints they had dug, but rough lamps, cut in chalk, for them to see by, and the picks which they had used to work with. The implements were all made of deer's horn, and it was noted that these old antler tools are exactly the same shape as the picks of wood and iron used in the flint quarries of England today.

Richard Fenn of Sulhamstead, Reading, England writing to the editor of the London Express not long ago told of a ring in his possession, the account of which has been sent to the Curio Editor in a clipping from the above mentioned paper, for which courtesy I thank my British correspondent. Mr. Fenn says that he has in his possession a bronze signet ring which he dug up while trenching in the old rectory garden at Woodstock (Oxon), some forty years ago. The ring has the letter "R" surmounted with a crown, flanked by two olive branches, apparently—or are they broom?—which he believes were emblems of royalty in the days of Richard III. He thinks the ring had some political significance, and that it belonged to the king himself. Not very long ago a ring was found at Seicester which is thought to have been owned by Richard III and the account of this caused Mr. Fenn to write the London paper telling of the similar ring which he found while digging in an old rectory garden some forty years ago.

Have the hundreds of curio collectors who read these pages ever stopped to think that there are just two kinds of curios? One the curio having great intrinsic value, such as a diamond of unusual size, a pearl of peculiar shade, a fine piece of Chinese porcelain, an ivory carving or some-

thing of that sort, and the other kind the curio which has no special or intrinsic worth, but is simply interesting by reason of its historical association, or by reason of its having belonged at one time to some great man. Sometimes these qualities are united, forming an object that is interesting as having at one time belonged to a great personage, and at the same time valuable as a work of art. The average curio collector, however, finds that his choicest possession is some little thing that has no intrinsic value and is prized but for its history.

FOUR DOLLAR GOLD PIECE.

A \$4 gold coin, probably the only one of its kind in existence, is on exhibition at the Germania National Bank, Milwaukee. It belongs to Dr. Charles J. Lange and is valued by the bank officials at \$200 although this is only approximate.

The piece of gold is of the same diameter as a \$5 gold piece, but thinner. On its face is the well-known "Liberty head," without the cap, however. Around this are thirteen stars interspersed with the figures and letters "6 G 3 7 C 7 rams." The exact meaning of the inscription none of the bank officials has ascertained. On the reverse of the coin is a five-pointed star, into which is cut the inscription. "One stella—400 cents." Around it are the words, "E Pluribus Unum, Deo Est Gloria," and around these, forming the rim of this side of the coin, are the words, United States of America. Four Dol."

About fifteen years ago this coin was sent to Watshington by the Merchants Exchange Bank, of Milwaukee, but the only information obtained was that the coin is genuine.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

MINERALOGY

[EDITOR'S NOTE.—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept.—Forest Gaines]

ALUMINUM.

Aluminum is the representative of the metals of the earths proper; all other members of this class are found in nature in very small quantities, and are chiefly of scientific interest with the exception of cerium, which furnishes an official compound.

Aluminum is found almost exclusively in the solid mineral portion of the earth; rarely more than traces of aluminum compounds are found dissolved in water; and the occurrence of aluminum in either the vegetable or animal organism seems to be purely accidental.

By far the largest quantity of aluminum is found in combination with silicic acid in the various silicated rocks forming the greater mass of our earth, such as feldspar, slate, basalt, mica, granite, hornblende, etc., or in the various modifications of clay, formed by their decomposition. The minerals known as corundum, ruby, sapphire, and emery, are aluminum oxide in a crystallized state and are more or less colored by traces of other substances.

Metallic aluminum is obtained by the decomposition of aluminum chloride by metallic sodium. It is also manufactured by the electrolysis of aluminum and sodium fluoride or of other aluminum compounds. The metal is silver white and of a low specific gravity (2.67). It is capable of assuming a high polish and for this reason is used for ornamental objects. It is very strong, but malleable and does not change to any great extent in dry or moist air. Ninety parts of copper and ten aluminum, form a

fine alloy, which is used a great deal in the arts and is called aluminum bronze.

CRYSTALS.

Crystals are solid substances bounded by plane surfaces symmetrically arranged according to fixed laws. In explaining the formation of crystals we have to assume that the particles are endowed with the power of attracting one another in certain directions, thereby building themselves up into geometrical forms. The first condition, essential to the formation of crystals is the possibility of free motion of the smallest particle of the matter to be crystallized; in that case only will they be able to attract each other in such a way, as to assume a regular shape or form crystals.

Particles of a solid mass can move more freely, only after they have been transferred to a liquid or gaseous state. There are two different methods of liquification, viz: by means of heat (melting) or solution in some suitable agent (dissolving). In the liquid condition thus produced, the smallest particles can follow their own attraction and unite to form crystals on removal of the cause of liquification (heat or solvent).

(Continued)

PETRIFIED BODY IS UNEARTHED

Stone Form of Man Is dug from Bank of Illinois Creek.

Bloomington, Ill.—The petrified body of a man was dug up today on the banks of a creek near Leroy. The outlines of the body are plainly marked, and the petrification is perfect. A mark on one eye leads to the belief that the man was killed by an Indian arrow. The body weighs 600 pounds. It is being viewed by thousands.—Chicago Record-Herald.

HOETOWN VIRGINIA BAKER

Mr. C. Abbott Davis, Curator of Roger Williams Park Museum at Providence, R. I., alludes, in an article contributed to the October number of the WEST, to a visit recently paid by him to some of the old Indian localities situated in the town of Warren, R. I. (ancient "Sorrans" the home of that truly royal sachem Massasoit) and to the discovery of a spot upon which he has bestowed the very appropriate name "Hoetown." To me Mr. Davis has left the task of describing this "new found land," which he and I explored with feelings akin, perhaps, to those experienced by Columbus when he first trod the green shores of San Salvador.

During the visit referred to I, acting as cicerone, guided Mr. Davis to the "national grinding mills" of the Wampanoags, thence to an old burial place where, more than forty years ago, the Penobscot chief, "Big Thunder" located, by means of an ancient skin chart belonging to his tribe, the graves of six or eight aborigines. As we turned the horses heads homeward, I proposed that a stop be made at Windmill Hill, in the north easterly part of the town, where a century ago, arrowheads were abundant and where, even now, they are occasionally discovered by sharp eyes. I had little idea of finding Indian relics at this spot, for at different periods it has been pretty thoroughly "canvassed" by antiquarians, yet I secretly cherished a forlorn hope that the earth, recently plowed might yield at least one hoarded treasure as a reward for our pertinacity.

A little quartz arrow was the first find and then two or three rough "hammer stones" we discovered ly-

ing in the furrows just as the plow share had turned them up. Finally in the far corner of the field we were exploring we suddenly came upon "Hoetown."

Upon the crest of Windmill Hill is a ledge of slaty rock partly overgrown by grass and mosses, and dotted here and there with juniper trees. It was at the point where the edge of the field touches the ledge that we found "Hoetown." It was a rectangular strip of land measuring, perhaps, a hundred by seventy-five feet. Scattered over it were two or three hundred fragments of slate chipped at some unknown period from the mother ledge. They were of various shapes and sizes, but possessed one marked peculiarity. One end of each was rounded more or less evenly, the opposite end being straight or slightly eurved.

"They look like hoe blades," I exclaimed, and, after a careful examination of several of the best specimens, we arrived at the conclusion that they were hoe blades albeit in an unfinished state—"blanks" they might be not inaptly termed. "Doubtless in the long vanished past," said we, "they formed the stock in trade of some skillful native artisan who broke them from the rock, roughly shaped the edges, and stored them here to be finished off at his leisure." "Why," queried Mr. Davis, "should not the Indian agriculturist have had his hoes made to order if he so desired?" And the fragments of rock at his feet seemed to mutely assert that he did have his hoes made to order.

It did not require a very great stretch of imagination to picture in our minds the aboriginal artificer squatting by the side of the ledge, working upon his simple implements of husbandry with the rude tools of

his age. He undoubtedly chose that particular site for a workshop because of its close proximity to the ancient trail which wound along like a snake a few rods north of the hill, just as the merchant of today hires a store on the principal street of a town or city. If he were aught of a poet—and the Indian nature is essentially poetic—he may have been partially influenced by the beauty of the spot selected. In those long vanished days when he wrought, a glorious panorama met his eyes whenever he lifted them from his work. Spread before him were park-like meadows of emerald grass, fields of waving corn, prairie groves where thrush and cat-bird, song sparrow and bobolink trilled their joyous lays, long stretches of marsh where the quail whistled and the wild-fowl nested and, beyond all, the beautiful blue Sowams river, sweeping between lovely verdant banks to the broad expanses of Narragansett Bay.

Even a hoe maker could scarcely have remained imperious to such a scene.

But why was the work abandoned? Did the artisan grow old at his labor and die, leaving no successor? Did a sudden incursion of his tribes dreaded foes, the Narragansetts, cause him to flee to some safer locality. Or did the coming of the white men who raised their log cabins hard by the hill side force him to "retire from business". His poor crude stone hoes could hardly have held their own against the rival implements introduced by the English. We shall never know the truth of any of our surmises, but that, in the remote past, the slate ledge at Windmill Hill the scattered fragments of rock at Hoetown seem to bear silent but incontrovertible testimony.

New Naturalist Fields

D E B R O W N

One has just about reached the "jumping off place" when they arrive at Glacier Washington. From there on, a pack trail leads off in the Mt Baker mining district. One can go on some twenty-five miles farther if they are levelheaded and sure footed. The average naturalist will find much of interest without going beyond Glacier.

A good hard climb of two and a half miles with nothing particularly pleasant about it except the knowledge that it will be very much downhill when going home with a heavy pack, and the abundance and variety of last years bird nests that give ample proof that many a pleasant day may be spent next spring with collecting box and climbers brings one to the spot where they would pause even were they not out of breath.

Just ahead the entire waters of Canyon Creek plunge down in a splendid falls with a fine eddy at the bottom, that makes one (almost) wish they had brought rod and line instead of pick and chisel. From above the falls the cliffs rise two hundred feet of solid rock and are topped with magnificent Washington firs two hundred and fifty and even three hundred feet high. The specimen hunter has no time for all these wonders, for right at his feet is a deposit of blue shale, that is literally full of fossil leaves, from a tiny, delicate fern to what many thousand years ago was a gigantic palm leaf. Much is required in chipping off the specimens, but in time one succeeds in securing a load and is ready for the home trip.

Postmarks of New York City.

(Continued.)

In September 1858 a set of postmarks appeared which were kept in use for a period of 22 years—until 1900 Fig. 47. This is a large and important series, of which there is one characteristic, the year at the bottom of the circle in two figures. In some cases there is a dash after New, but not later than 1890. This set includes the following numbers in the cancellers, 1, 23, 26, 32, 36, 40, 42, 44, 56, 52 Since 1900 the year has been printed in full at the



No. 48



No. 49.

bottom of the circle. Fig. 48. Otherwise there has been no change since 1878 In collecting, one can either make a separate set of those since 1900 or not, as he pleases.

Returning now to postmarks from city postal stations, (those which have letters rather than figures in the cancellers), we find in nearly all cases that the letter designating the station appears both at the bottom of the circle and in the canceller. The first of these appeared in 1877. No year is shown in the postmark. I have seen only stations A and



No. 50



No. 51

C. Figure 49. In 1878 the year was added, Fig. 50, between the date circle and the canceller. This pattern was used down to 1900 and includes the following, (this list shows the wording in

both circle and canceller respectively) AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG, HH, II, JJ, KK, LL, MM, NN, OO, PP, RR, SS, TT, UU, VV, WW, XX, YY, also P. O. P.O., (for the central postoffice) Madison Square Sta., Westchester Sta, Westchest.

Since 1900 the year has been printed in four figures. Otherwise there has been no change since 1878. It will be



No. 52



No. 53

seen that this set is a parallel set to that shown in Fig. 47. There are two variations in this set. The first of them is shown in Fig 52. It has the station between New and York instead of at the bottom of the circle. I have seen only one of these, dated as in the cut. The other variation is more common. It consists in the N. Y. after New York. Fig. 53. The earliest example is dated April 13, 1893, and some are in use at present. There are CC, FF, HH, II, SS.

This finishes the outline of New York crossbarres hand cancellations. In next issue the vertical bars will be described.

WHO LOST A TOOTH?

At a depth of about 14 feet laborers for the Spearman avenue sewer at South Sharon uncovered the tusk or horn of some prehistoric animal. It is semi-circular in shape, six feet in length, and five inches in diameter at the base. Those who have examined it say that it is the tusk of a mammoth. It was imbedded in a clay bank and is in a good state of preservation. The tusk was turned over to the South Sharon Lumber company, which will probably send it to the Carnegie Institute at Pittsburg.

He (or she) who finds a bargain in an ad will look for other ads from the same source.

**Dante Cards, Illustrated
by Gustave Dore**

M . K E L L E R

(Continued from last number.)

From Canto XIV. We have various scenes, one being a plain of hot sand where three kinds of violence are punished; those against God, nature and art; and those who thus sinned are tormented by flakes of fire which are showering down upon them. "Unceasing was the play of wretched hands, now this now that way glancing, to shake off the heat still falling." And again, "O'er all the sand fell dilated flakes of fire, as flakes of snow on Alpine summit, when the wind is hushed." Next comes the forest of self slayers, which shows streamlets of blood that issue from the forest and traverses the sandy plain. Here Virgil speaks to our poet of a huge statue that stands within Mount Ida in Crete, from a fissure in which statue there is a dripping of tears from which this streamlet together with the three others of the infernal rivers are formed. Virgil says: "In midst of Ocean, a desolate country lies which Crete is named. Under whose monarch, in old times the world lived pure and chaste a mountain rises there, called Ida, joyous once which leaves and streams deserted now like a forbidden thing.

Canto XV is illustrated by scenes showing Dante and Virgil taking their way along the bank of the streamlet where they meet a troop of spirits along the sand. These are such as who have done violence to nature; and amongst them Dante distinguishes Brunetto Latini, who had been formerly his master. He complies and speaks with them. Next we see a craggy steep slope here they discern the painted leopard, a

vile looking master.

The monster Geryon is described in XVII, and is illustrated on one card making a deep plunge with Virgil and Dante on his back. "As a small vessel backing out from land so thence the monster loosed, and when he felt himself at large, turned round there where the beast has been his forked tail, thus like an eel, out stretched at length he steer'd gathering the air up with retractile claws." After having descended to the next circle by this monster they come to the third species of sinners, those who have done violence to art. "New terror I conceive for flames I saw, and wailing smote mine ear, by the dread torments that on every side drew nearer." Other cards show scenes in the gulf wherein are punished those who have been guilty of simony. Dante is taken down by his guide to the very depths of the gulf, where he sees the deed reprehended in burning flames.

Dante says, "There stood I like the friar that doth shrive a wretch for murder doomed". Other scenes show punishments of such as while living predict future events. These have their faces reversed, and set the contrary way on their limbs, so that being deprived of the power to see before them, they are constrained ever to walk backward. Next shows a circle called Malebolge, where public speculators are being punished by being plunged in a lake of boiling pitch, and guarded by demons to whom Virgil, presents himself taking pity on the suffering ones. One horrible view presents a swarm of flying demons, pointing their weapons to Virgil. Dante describes this thus: "With storm like fury, as when dogs rush forth upon the poor man's back, who suddenly from whence he standeth makes his suit; so rushed those

from beneath the arch, and against him their weapons all they pointed." Virgil and Dante are now proceeding accompanied by the demons, and see other sinners of the same description in the same gulf. "Too long we suffer" Libicocco cried, then darting forth a tong, seized on his arm and bore away the sinewy part." The demons pursue Dante but he is preserved by Virgil, and so they safely reach the 6th gulf where he beholds the punishment of the hypocrits, which is to pace continually round the gulf under the pressure of caps and hoods that are gilt on the outside but leaden otherwise." On the next, Dante and Virgil appear talking to the mourning hypocrits, who have hoods on that fall down low before their eyes, like the monk in Cologne, an everlasting wearisome attire. They cry out, "Our bonnets gleaming white with orange hue are so leaden gross that with their weight they make the balances to crack beneath them." Next we see Dante in the seventh gulf where he sees the robbers tormented by venomous and pestilent serpents. There he meets the soul of Vanui Fucci, who had pillaged the sacristy of St. James in Pistora "The chasm opening to view, I saw a crowd within of serpents terrible, so strange of shape and hideous, that remembrance in my views yet shrinks the vital current." So speaks Dante, and again he says, "Amid this dread exhuberance of woe ran naked spirits wringed with horrid fear nor hope had they of crevice to hide, or heliotrope to charm them out of view. "Here are shown sprits bound with their hands behind, by serpents, which hold them fixed by their reins, tail and head twisted in folds. The sacreligious Fuccii seized by serpents, and flying is pursued by Cacus in the

form of a centaur, who is seen with a swarm of serpents on his haunch and a dragon on his shoulders breathing forth fire. Ivy ne'er clasped a dodder'd oak, as round the others' limbs the hideous monster intertwined his own." In the eighth gulf are seen a lot of flames wherein are punished the evil counsellors, each flame containing a sinner. "Within these ardors are the spirits each swathed in confining fire". The poets now are seen in the ninth gulf, where the sowers of scandal and heretics are seen with their limbs miserably maimed of each hand, uplifted in the gloom the bleeding stumps that they with gory spots sullied his face." Virgil rouses Dante: "What yet gazeth on? Wherefore doth fasten get thy sight below amongst the maimed and miserable shades?" In the tenth gulf are shown the forgers tormented in darkness with divers plagues and diseases. In the same gulf, other kinds of impostors as those who have counterfeited the persons of others, or deceived by speech by false pretenses, are described as suffering various diseases. The poets following the sound of a loud horn are led by it to the ninth circle in which are punished the traitors. Some scenes show one circle encompassed with giants, one of whom Antaeus, who takes both poets in his arms and places them in the bottom of the circle. "I heard a horn sound so loud the peal it rang had made the thunder feeble." "All teeming nature, when her plastic hand left framing of these monsters, did display, past doubt her wisdom, taking from mad war such slaves to do his bidding." In the XXXII Canto is described a lake of ice which is well illustrated. Here are seen the heads of the spirits as well as their bodies, frozen into the

lake. Virgil says "Look how thou walkest, take good care, thy soles do not tread on the heads of thy poor brethren." Dante saw before him "a lake whose frozen surface like seemed to glass than water." "As peeps the frog croaking above the wave; so, to where modest shame appears, thus low blue pinched and shrined in ice the spirits stood moving their teeth in shrill note like the stork, "In the last of the ninth circle are seen those who have betrayed their benefactors who are wholly covered with ice, in the midst of which is seen Lucifer. Our last scenes show Virgil and Dante where they return to earth again when Dante says: "By that hidden way, my guide and I did enter, to return to the fair world; and heedless of repose we climbed, he first, till on one view the beautiful lights of heaven dawned through a circular opening through a circular cave thence issuing out we beheld the stars."

A Real Find By F. E. H. a l b e r t

While plowing on a hillside in Otego County, N. Y., a farmer's hired man turned up over seventy valuable coins, mostly gold and silver ones. None of them were less than 125 years old; the dates running as far back as 1637. They were of various sizes, values and nationalities. English guineas, crowns, half crowns and Spanish pieces. One Portuguese coin was estimated by an expert to contain more than \$24 worth of pure gold. All the coins were well preserved notwithstanding their long exposure to the chemical action of the soil and dampness.

It is said that this wealth was buried probably rather hastily during an Indian outbreak. The pioneers being captured by the red-skins and held prisoners for some years. On their escaping they searched in vain for their buried treasure. The hired man discovered one-half his share of the find.

STRANGE STORY OF BRITAIN'S RAREST COIN.

The rarest of all British coins is the "Saxon King Offa," and in connection with it Colonel Wardlaw Ramsay tells a singular story of coincidence in his "Rough Recollections of Military Service and Society." Briefly, this is the story: A venerable clergyman, reputed to be the greatest numismatist in Great Britain, while on his way to the British Museum to examine certain coins, and especially the "Saxon King Offa," preserved there and believed to be unique, was offered by a hawker in an obscure street a veritable specimen of the same coinage, and purchased it for a few pence! In the absence of the chief keeper of the coins, an assistant showed the visitor the coins he wanted, but when putting them back in their places was horrified to find the "Saxon King Offa" missing. He flew into a great rage, would not let the clergyman leave the room, and as no other person had been present, declared to him: "Sir, either you or I must have it, and I propose that a third person be called, and our pockets searched." The proposal was indignantly refused, and he was detained till the rightful guardian of the coins appeared. He after examining them found the "Saxon King Offa" sticking to another. "Why," he asked the clergyman, "did you refuse to show the contents of your pockets?" "This was the reason," he replied, taking out the "Saxon King Offa" he had just purchased and showing it, adding: "You will not wonder at my objection. The dreadful thought flashed across me that if this was found—it being believed and I tacitly admitting that there was no other coin in existence of King Offa—nothing would have saved me."—Hobbies of England.

Shell Arrowheads By C. ABBOTT DAVIS

While engaged in carding the fine collection of 2500 Rhode Island Arrowheads belonging to the the late Charles Gorton which were recently donated to our museum, I discovered three small pieces of Quahog shell which were neither wampum, scrapres nor anything I had ever seen before. This set me to thinking that perhaps the later tribes which lived along the shores of Narragansett Bay, (the Narragansetts on the West, the Wampanagos on the East) may have used shells for a great many purposes. So, after one of the severe storms of this fall, I took a stroll along upper Bay where the banks had been washed away in many places. Here and there I found pieces of chipped flint but no tools or perfect arrowheads and I was just about to return, having reached the last of the exposed sand hills when I came suddenly upon an Indian workman's shop or kitchen hidden, and I was not able to carry home the half of my find. First there were scattered about over sixty of these Quahog arrowpoints which I have never seen described so I will tell you about them. They are made after the triangular pattern and average an inch and a half long by an inch in width. They are all "cut on the bias" and so present a beautiful spiral twist. All are more or less chipped on the edges, and are so sharp that they would inflict fearful wounds. They are very hard and brittle and would not stand the rough usage of tough flint, but on the other hand Indian could make 50 of them while another was making one flint quartz head. This heap contained other things, charcoal, four kinds of flint chips, arrowheads in process of construction, old blue China-ware, brown earthen ware and four kinds of glass bottles. Critics

have said that I struck a dump, or a camp of the Revolutionary Period, but all such criticism is tounry rot. The charcoal in there and a few pieces of a kind of pottery and the flint chips. Moreover we have four water-bottles made of this same glass from the Indian graves at Warren, R. I., about ten miles further down the river. From there some Warren graves were taken peuter spoons English made beads, a pewter porringer, several copper vessels, several brass finger rings and two iron tomahawks, all of which were obtained from the Pilgrims. Miss Virignia Baker in her Massasoit tour speaks of these trades between the Pilgrims and these Indians, and when Miss Baker and I drove over historic Warren found there some quahog arrowheads, broken pieces of blue china ware and of the old green glass, in company with regulatim quartz arrowheads and Indian stone-hoes and hammer stones. There were also many tri-pervidal shaped pieces of flint, shell, china-ware and glass which I suspect were used to scrape the tender arrowsticks to exact shape. All country boys use a broken piece of glass or crockery for this purpose today.

In Georgia and Florida the natives made drinking cups out of the left handed shell *Fulcur preversa*, and I am still in hopes of finding a Rhode Island cup made from our right handed *Fulgur carica* misnamed the periwinkle. In those days bone fish hooks must have been common for our Indian lived largely on fish, lobster, claws, oysters, scallops and quahogs. They probably speared some fish, but as net sinkers are common it would lead us to assume that trapping was their usual method. It is well to note that in this kitchen midden were only 2 clam shells, several oyster shells, and a few small oyster shell arrow points, but the prince of the whole lot is the old willow ware arrowhead with the blue still on it.

Carte Mobile Trip
Around The World.
M. K E L L E R

(Continued.)

Having arrived at Rotterdam we enter at the Portal of Te Heus, meaning at home, one of Rotterdam's most famous hotels. This city we find beautifully situated on the bank of the Nieuwe Maas. It has a great railway viaduct, of iron which continues across the river. One view shows a Grand bridge on the south side of the bank. Various ecclesiastical buildings are also to be seen, such as the Grote Kirk (cathedral) one of the most important, though it is of no architectural interest, except being of Gothic style with a tower of 297 feet high. Its chimes ring out every quarter hour and every 9 months the melodies are changed. It has a grand organ which is seen on one card also others showing interior views of the church. It also contains the monument of Lambert Henderikeszon, and imposing structure, some 282 feet long. It has a turreted cupola, which rises 66 feet above the main building. On the opposite side from the palace of the square, called the "Dam" stands the Beurs or Exchange, a fine building. There are many places of worship in Amsterdam. One interesting view shows the "Criers tower" at the end of the Geldersche Kade, where vessels left for all parts of the world, and got its name from the tears of the sailors who here bid their friends farewell. Next we find ourselves in the city of Haarlem, a typical Dutch town. The branches of the Spaarne and its many canals turn its streets into so many quays. The houses have gable ends, with old fashioned crowsteps. The great market place especially has much that is worth

seeing. St. Bavo one of the oldest and most famous cathedrals in the Netherlands is a fine sight to behold. It has a tower some 255 feet in height and is some 426 feet long. Next we see the monument of Laur: Janza Koster, the inventor of printing. The royal museum has a collection of 250 pictures, and is a very new building in the modern French Mansard style. Another view of St. Bavo or Groote Kerk, shows the interior of this grand edifice and its grand pipe organ, for which it is famous. From the Hague, we have many pretty views, among them are the Binnenhoff building used for States Generals etc, royal library and park and several fine churches.

Egbert Meeuviveszoon Kortennaar, Wiatte Conneliszoonde Witte, Johan Vanbrakel and other Dutch naval heroes. Various views shown are from the grand quay called the Boompjes, from the trees with which it is planted. Others show views from the Zoological garden, and Vijver Park which extends along the banks of the Maas, and in which we see a marble statue of Hendrick Aollens, the Dutch poet. Among its conspicuous secular buildings are the Post and Telegraph office, the Maas station, the courthouse, Baymans, Museum and picture gallery. One very pretty view along the Maas shows a good part of the city and the grand Lionbridge. Various views are from Delfshaven, Kralingen, and Hilleger's berg, a huge dyke on which stands Hoog, or High Str. Excursion may be made to the Hague daily even hourly by street cars for all these places. Arriving in Amsterdam we see many fine sights from there of which the Zoological garden is the finest, perhaps one of the finest in the world of its kind. They make a specialty of birds, etc. The

streets in old Amsterdam are very narrow and irregular. The houses frequently present a picturesque skyline, broken by fantastic gables, roofs chimneys, towers and turrets of all forms and dimensions. Some of the modern houses are very handsome, as well as the broad streets planted with rows of large trees between the houses and canals, as shown on various cards. Some of the chief promenades seen are the Vaudelspak, and the Plantation. Of the public buildings, the palace is the most beautiful. The town, originally was a hunting lodge or hedge of the count of Holland and was called the count's Haw or garden. Having arrived at the island of the Maas we arrive at the seaport Dordrecht. We see the New Harbor with many, many ships lying at the wharves. Still another harbor seen is called the lime harbor. Others show the railway station with its grand train sheds and various nice streets of which Wilhelmina Street is the finest and is named from the Queen. Bergen has some fine view cards. This is situated at about the center of the island, and is the capital. One view card is from the famous Arndt tower which was erected in 1873 in memory of the famous poet, and general writer born at Schoritz Ruegen. One very pretty view shows a ferry running from Dordrecht to Zwijndrecht and views from the town. Having crossed on the ferry we now find ourselves in Zwijndrecht. Here we have the fine old typical windmills, and flour mills, which are truly romantic and without which any Holland scenery seems incomplete. Other views show street scenes and buildings of but little interest. Various other towns depicted are: Columborg, Gorinchem, Maastricht, Velden and Weert. Each one is picturesquely situated. Some of these have have water streets which put one in mind of Venice some of the finest views are park scenes reproduced in water colors. Among other views from Holland are some from Groningsen, Hassalt and Bergen or Zoon. Groningen has some fine views from its harbor and other points. There are many interesting views from the bregen op zoon it being formerly a strongly fortified city, of which fortifications the greater part remains yet as seen on various cards. From Tholen a small town in the eastern part of the island of Tholen are seen some fine blue print views showing its main streets and an oyster pit into which oysters are put to fatten and gathreed for market.

AUSTRIA

The next country we come to is Austria, comprising views from lower and Upper Austria Hungary, Salzburg, Tyrol Bohemia, etc., Austria as well as Italy, is a picturesque country, especially when viewed from the Erzgebirse and the Sudetic mountains, the beautiful Danube, the Adriatic sea, and the lofty Alps. Bosnia and Herzegovina way down in the southern part, is very beautiful marvelously picturesque country, though very primitive in some modes of living and the occupation is chiefly agriculture. Bounded by the river Save on the north and by the Dinaric Alps in the West, it is romantic, the entire country being on continuous hill and dale—mountains and rich in water throughout. Its watering places and health resorts are numerous.

Among the famous watering places of the world none is perhaps more famous than Carlsbad. Here come all classes of people to enjoy the beauties of the scenery and to partake of the mineral water

(Continued.)

WOMAN COLLECTORS DEPARTMENT
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE WOMAN COLLECTOR
Conducted by V E R N A W E S T O N H A N W A Y ~ ~

In a paper read before various English societies, Earnest Heignbottom, B. A. deplors the lack of interest taken in Philately by the women of his country. He says:

"I hold that philately ought to take a better hold of the fair sex than it does at present in this country—where women, more or less hold aloof from our various societies and rarely attend their meetings. One seldom sees any articles in our journals penned by our women folk, nor have we any recognized experts among them. This is a somewhat different state of affairs to that existing on the continent, in the United States, etc., where the Female Collector is more prominent, and even articles sometimes appear in the papers from their pens. Encourage philately, therefore among our sisters, for is it not a fact that in a pursuit where women enter there is a strong tendency to raise its moral tone. Exceptions, there are, but the fact remains that women, as a rule, rarely enter into any hobbies, or societies, etc., where men are recognized leaders, unless some strong status of respectability is attached to them, and inasmuch as his status is in every way applicable to our organizations, why should our fair sex not join them in greater numbers than they do at present"

I do not understand thoroughly the condition of philatelic affairs abroad, but from some little experience with English women it has seemed to me that they are more strongly bound by the chains of established custom than the women of this country, therefore less liable to publicly ride their hobbies. While American women are

numerous as philatelists, it is a fact that they, as a rule prefer to ride their hobby in the seclusion of their libraries. It seems to me it would be better for the interests of the hobby if they would make more public their interest for the reasons advanced by Mr. Hegnbottom

One of my chief reasons for entering upon the conducting of this department was to obtain the interest of that silent army of women philatelists. I hope in time to succeed.

Seated one day at my library table I dreamed a dream as the saying goes. This is what I saw in my dreams. A sisterhood of women collectors gathered from all parts of the globe, for exchange, correspondence and campaign purpose. I saw this society grow larger and larger, like a snowball that is pushed by energetic hands, until it became a great factor for the present and future good of advancing philately.

I saw great exhibitions, great reforms and a great literature. I saw vast exchange and sale bureaus, protecting the members against frauds. I saw philately rise and flourish like a plant nourished by the tender hands of women.

With a start I awoke from my dreams to the knowledge that the mss. for the months issue must be finished.

The sequel depends upon the women collectors,. I would like to correspond with my readers upon the subject. I rest my case.

CHIT CHAT.

While showing my philatelic collection to our ancient bacteriologist

the other day he made the following comments:

"Very interesting no doubt, but how dare you handle them? Do you not get sore hands, sore lips, pimples and blotches on your face? Each of these seemingly innocent bits of paper possess vast power for disease. Look at these stamps under the microscope. Do you not see the germs? From every known country, they have been handled and moistened by all nationalities and classes, by persons with some of the most loathsome and vile diseases known. These germs stick to your fingers, get on your face and cause those troublesome, almost invisible eruptions — a n d sometimes worse"

"But doctor!" I exclaimed in surprise. "There are some millions of persons in the world who collect stamps and—!"

"Just so my friend, and that makes the danger treble. You have explained the system of approval selling and exchanging. Those books with stamps already possessing germs go into all sorts and conditions of homes. Among collectors are often found invalids with all varieties of ills. These collections and duplicates are often sold. You can figure the result."

"Is there no remedy?" I inquired. "I will not give up stamp collecting for all the microbes in Christendom." "No," he responded, laughingly, "I did not expect that you would. You are what we who are outside of the fraternity designate as a 'crank'. Here I will give you a bottle of this preparation that I call the Gold Cross Antiseptic. Put a little on your stamps, it won't hurt them in the least, and will destroy the germs. Put some on your lips and you may have no fear of microbic cultivation. It will destroy

the most unsightly pimples, blotches and sores. Mothers have used it on the most delicate baby skin without the slightest evil results."

Following the good physicians's advise I used it and found it was all he claimed for it—and more. I also found out several other things. Namely that my stamps issued from their germ bath, as fresh and clean as upon the day they came from the press. Even the most worn, faded and soiled stamps blossomed with their former pristine glory.

In the recent Berlin Exhibition the following women took part. Mrs. Hiexheimer who received a gold medal in General collections, class 1 unused. This collection in thirteen albums from 1890 only, consisted of stamps in mint condition, was very complete and is said to have been well worthy of the honor paid it.

Mrs. H. L. Hayman recieved a silver medal. She showed a general collection of 16000 varieties in two volumes of the Imperial album. The stamps comprising the collection were in unusually good condition.

Mrs. F. M. Birdson showed a special collection of Portugal for which she received a bronze medal.

Mrs. M. Berenbak a bronze medal for a mall collection with numerous rarities.

The Exhibition is reported to have been a success. Would that our own country could produce the equal, and would that our American women would take as active interest!

***It All Comes Out
In The Wash.***
F. A. BROWN, East Peru, Ia.

Sounds rather like slang doesn't it? But it exactly expresses just what I desire to say. Every mineral almost known to mineralogist has been found as pebbles or sand and has come out by the action of the elements. Came out in the wash if you please. Calcite or lime stone is the most common of all pebbles here. Probably next in frequency comes quartzite. Quartz white, pink or rose and black form a great part of the pebbles or sand of this section. Mica, granite, feldspar, limonite and flint are also very common but it is not in a mineralogical way that I desire to speak, but in a geological way.

Many of my very best specimens are those that have "Come out in the Wash" that is by action of the water, heat and cold they have been separated from the matrix. Those specimens that withstand the effect of the wash are well cleaned and are usually ready to go into the cabinet without any further preparation.

Today I have secured Derbya-Crossa, Productus-Longispinus, Productus-Costatus, Athyrio-Subtilita body plate of Archaeocidaris, stem of crinoid, head of crinoid, and stems of Rombopora-Lepodendroides. I have also at other times found the following that have been weathered Spirifer-Cameratus, Productuo-cora, Productus-Nebraskaensis, Spine of Archaeocidaris, Mekelle-Striato-costata, Allorisma-Subcuneatum, Campophyllum-Torquium-Bellorophon-sp?, Choneteo-Vermilium-Syringopora-sp? Halysites-Catenlate, Favosites sp? A fossil shark tooth I have, also found here in a small branch. Copper coal, iron pyrite and other

ores have been found here. I have an amethyst that was found here washed out.

Here is a small list of minerals found as pebbles or sand in different parts of the world, just to show the range of what may be found Andalusite, Ankreite, Beryl, Barite, Chrysoberyl, Cassiterite, Calcite, Diopside, Datoite, E mrey, Epidoilte, Emerald, Franklinite, Garonet, Hernatite, Ilmenite, Jadeite, Kailin, Limonite, Laboradirite, Lencite, Magnetite, malchite, Microcline, Nephrite, Orthoclase, Oligoclase, Phyllite, Petalite, Quartz, Rhodochrosite, Ruby, Sillimarite, Sapphire, Thornsonite, Topaz, Viv-anite, Wolfamite, Xenotime, Zircon and Zoisite. Just a few of a great list of mineral specimens to be found in your river sands some are sure to reward your search.

So, I say, "It all comes out in the wash." And go to the stream thou collector, and get specimens.

The Nebraska State Historical Society invites all citizens to help collect into the fireproof room of the Society, manuscripts, letters, photographs, relics, and printed matter concerning Nebraska. Nearly all the newspapers and magazines of the state are being preserved and bound, and old files are being gathered as fast as they can be found. Everyone having files is urged to give them to the society. Correspondence from every part of the state is very much desired concerning historical matters, such as archaeology and Indian remains, origin of names of rivers, counties, cities, and villages, diaries, manuscripts and biographies of early settlers, war relics, etc. Office and Collections room 104 State University Library Building.

B A S K E T R Y

VERNA WESTON HANWAY

There was a time when the collector of baskets, or rather the lover, for there were few basket collectors in the time of which I speak, had a very meager range for his fancy, for varieties were few, excepting the common place machine made article. Interest in "basketry" has developed at a rapid pace, however, of recent years. This is owing chiefly to the increased appreciation of the work of our own Indians. Indian baskets are as fascinating for collecting as rugs, china, old furniture, pictures, etc. The symbols are woven into curious patterns and illustrations with as rare and soft a coloring as many an old piece of tapestry. Queer legends are probably told of the past grandeur and brave deeds, but these will never be interpreted by the white man, for the Indian jealously guards the ancient secrets of his race. Interesting in the extreme is a representative collection. Gathered from many tribes, representing many different materials, many different weavings, many different uses and many different patterns, they stand as monuments to the past glory, the industry and patience of the Indian race. Patience indeed is required, for many are so finely and artistically woven as to require a day for the weaving of a single round. Ingenious indeed is the manner in which they are made and the uses to which certain articles are put. The dyes are made by steeping the bark of trees, the juice from berries, is used as an immersion. The process of splitting, curing and bleaching the grasses and reeds is slow and tiresome. The stems of the maiden hair fern are the fine black strands frequently seen. The majority of the fiftyeight tribes have distinctive methods in designing and weaving.

The inhabitants of the Alutian Islands shred their broad, stiff grass very finely, and weave it so closely as to make it waterproof. It is so soft and pliable that when not in use it can be folded and put away as easily as a piece of cloth. The Iriquois of the West, or rather the Keickitas adopt the over lapping weave. Their burden basket is very curious, being oblong in shape, very deep and formed on a block. The Apache tribe are very careful as the proportions and weaving of baskets. The Shinumas make beautiful fine baskets of many different varieties. Their water jugs consist of baskets made watertight by a coating of pitch and gum. Baskets made by the Utes are made noticeable by rough weaving, it being rougher than that of any other tribe. The Mokies, the inhabitants of Arizona's pueblos have a great reverence for their baskets, regarding them as sacred and putting them to important uses in religious ceremonials. Basket making is an important source of income. They are famous for their fine baskets. Baskets are nearly imperishable and as a collection they make a brilliant showing. The large museums recognize their claims and many show handsome representative collections. Many different methods are used in the keeping and exhibition of baskets. Some collectors hang them on the walls and group them around fireplaces, and on tables; others consider that air and dust destroy their beauty of coloring and consequently they place them behind glass. One collector has had cabinets made with very broad and deep shelves. On these he groups the baskets according to their relations and coloring. On a printed slip pasted on the bottom of each basket is written such notes as are indispensable for ready classification and refer-

ence. As a study of the artistic nature and patience of a race battling against primitive methods a collection of Indian baskets has no equal. Basketry has been a neglected branch by collectors of Indian relics. As interesting as spear heads, arrowpoints, hatchets, skulls and pottery they deserve a prominent place among other works of like origin.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Veigel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1802 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month.

What would you do? Members have received subscription blanks in paper and wonder at the cause, but to explain more fully, can say so far this year, have not received a cent for any of the members from our secretary for the organ and only about one third of last year. Dr. Emery of Crawfordsville, Ind., and Stillwell, Deadwood, S. D., may help members further who have had any dealings they complain secretary owed them over 2 years, and seems almost impossible to even get a reply from the secretary. Believe the best way is to send the dues direct to the publisher who will send to secretary less organ cost. This way they would be sure of the paper at least and will send all card receipt who send dues direct to the publisher. Following is list of officers seem and believe to be a good one President, R. F. Greene; Vice President, Miss Baker, Rhode Island; B. A. Coover of Ohio, E. B. Brokaw of California; Secretary, Mrs. May Tuttle of Osage, Ia.

Would like to hear from all members and see photos of them and collec-

tions with short write up as well as articles on curio relics and finds they have made or seen. Send to the publisher.

NEW MEMBERS.

Ada C. Gomez, Brooklyn, N. Y., 21 Third Place.

D. E. Brown, Glacier, Wash.

J. Marshall, Barkly, Cincinnati, Ohio, 221 Carpenter Place.

RENEWALS.

B. C. Wheeler, Pylesville, Md.

Rev. E. C. Mitchell, St. Paul, Minn., 534 Summit, Ave.

A. G. Reynolds, Diston City, Fla.

Ben Greene, Chicago, 1533 Masonic Temple.

D. E. Host Bowerston, Ohio.

APPLICATIONS

A. L. Heltrich, San Francisco, Calif, 508 Washington St.

J. W. Haarer, Ann Arbor, Mich.

E. S. Crane, Yazoo City, Miss., 213 Main St.

F. Toole Bloomfield, Mo., Bx. 128.

D. Barnes, U. S. Marshall, Chattanooga, Tenn, Bx. 236.

Martin L. Garretson, Franklin Park, N. J. wishes photos of frontier cattle, scouts, pony express, taken at the time of the building of U. P. R. R., prefers them unmounted.

Largest Stamp Society in America STAMP COLLECTOR'S Protective Assoc'n OF AMERICA

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandlee, Roanoke Va.

Vice-President—W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.

Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr

Sales Supt.—E. Spinouy, box 443 Great Falls, Mont.

Auc. Mgr.—H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.

Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn

Trustees—Wilkinson, Brown, Hopson, Omaha

Official Organ—The WEST.

Any stamp collector of good recommendation may become a member by applying to secretary. Benefits: Mutual co-operation for the protection of honest collectors; for the furtherance of philately in general; annihilation of fraud and schemers by exposing them; collecting, investigating and assisting members in any way. Become a member and help us. With every complaint send 4c for purpose of investigation or

adjusting your claim if possible to do so.
A great many will pay rather than be published

Having been appointed Sales Superintendent of the S. C. P. A., I accept the position with a firm resolution of making the Sales Department prosperous and a credit to the society.

I have received demands for circuits and some approval books. The philatelic season is almost at its height and I wish to see all the members, having duplicates, apply for approval books, (Books of 100 spaces 3c each 15c ½ doz., 25c a dozen, post-paid). Rules of the Sales Dept., free, send a postal for a copy.

Brother collectors, let me put you on a circuit. I am getting bargains and wish the members of S. C. P. A. to get next to a good thing.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Fraternally yours,

Emil Spinony,

Sales Superintendent S. C. P. A.

Box 455, Great Falls, Montana.

R. R. McGill of Chicago, sends letter that came back to him from party asked him for sheets, name F. G. Franks of Cambridge, Mass, 145 Broadway, any others have the same trouble?

We want to hear always what way or idea you think will help on getting at frauds. Send if only a postal card, short and to the point. Prof. R. T. Doak of Avondale, Ohio, complains of Boies of International Stamp Exchange, Hudson, Mich. Be well to put the case in the P. O. hands. Atlas Co., of Brooklyn, N. Y., send name of A. S. Arnold, 283, Willard Ave, Prov., R. I. no reply, has moved and would like to get address. Also ask about W. Burrell, Aylmer, Can. Fagan of Topeka reports R. Mendorf, Hanover, Penn., sent him lot of paper money last July and no reply, also C. Lawson, Chicago, 5640 Lake Ave.

Quite number complaints to report next number, advertiser name Wortman of Paris is a party who don't

seem to pay his ad bills, see his ad in English papers, Wright of Jamaica asks regarding Golden Gate Co, San Francisco, seems to have left for parts unknown.

NEW MEMBERS.

N. Wattel, Brooklyn, N. Y., 5106, 6 ave, E. Stern, East Orange, N. J., 59 N 14th St. C D Lehunuhl, U S Naval Station Island, of Guam, C Ruthern, Brooklyn, N. Y., 367½ Pacific Ave. C. Pope, Effingham, Ill., ref 1st National Bank. J C Vansuant, New Orleans, La, 124 Barome St. C N Nevson Hudson Mich ref H Burd. J I Barnhurst Philadelphia Pa, c-o Art Club of Phila. Miss H. D. King, Bx 93, Bryn Maur Pa. Miss V W Hanway, Bx 156, Dallas, Pa. Miss D Guenther, Columbus, Tex. Clarence Grant, Bx 90, New Glasgow, N S, Canada. T F Thompson, Boston Mass, 60 State St. J Vaughn, West Haven, Ct., 192 Center St. C. S. Ryboldt, Mulberry, Ohio.



NEBRASKA
PHILATELIC
SOCIETY. 222

Nebraska's
Pride.

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy-Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc. Manager,
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245 S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262;
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg.
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

NEW MEMBERS.

Guy Stewart Nickerson.

H. G. Bauman, Omaha, 240 Leavenworth St.

Can use more new members. Many dues fall due, look them up on your membership cards and see if your names are not in this number

SALES DEPARTMENT REPORT.

During Oct. 38 books were retired, net value \$286.63, sales \$4.00

H. Wendt.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

POST CARDS

From Evening Star.

The fad for collecting picture post cards is particularly rampant at this holiday time of the year. These dainty cards are such charming souvenirs of travel and at the same time are so cheap, handy and beautiful that the wonder is not that they are collected, but that everybody does not appreciate the pleasure and amusement to be obtained from them. They are cheaper than photographs and so easy to purchase, especially abroad, and it has now become the most natural thing in the world when on a holiday trip to buy a number and post them off to one's friends.

Without doubt these picture cards had their origin in travel, and what more natural when visiting beautiful scenes or seeing interesting objects than the desire to share the contemplation of them with some loved one at home who is not able to enjoy them with one at the moment?

And another phase of the question is the fact that they appeal at the same time to the highest and lowest of emotions—benevolence and laziness. You give pleasure to the recipient both by the picture itself and by the thoughtful attention. Then, traveling is tiresome, say what you will, and it is so easy and lazy to scrawl a few lines on a picture card and let its pretty illustration make up for a lack of description, killing two birds with the same stone. The attractive bits of pasteboard in this way begin to appeal to the purchaser, and he is tempted to duplicate for himself, and in this manner many collections have been commenced.

The cards are equally interesting to those who travel and to those who

do not, and as these two classes include everybody nearly everybody collects.

All sorts of people become collectors of these pretty missives. Perhaps women are the greatest sinners in this respect although the list includes numerous men, lawyers, doctors, business men, travelers and literary men. King Carlos of Portugal has designed some beautiful cards, and King Edward when on his travels sends the trifles to his grand children.

The ways of the collector are many and strange. Some of the cult collect only those cards that have passed through the mail, while others make a specialty of views that bear the post mark of the town pictured. Others, again, prefer their treasures clean and scorn soiled cards that come through the mails.

The mainstay of the collector is the view post card, one may specialize on in cards as in stamps or anything else. The nucleus of the collection, however, will be view cards. After a holiday outing, which in these days of extensive touring often takes one over the pond or across our own continent, the usual thing is to begin a book of cards, filling it with postals from the countries visited in their respective order.

The plan of an expert collector is as follows: First, he pastes in cards showing the rulers and arms of the country, or, if America is the ground to be covered, the seals of the different states. Then he puts in scenes of the capitals and the larger towns visited. When the book is full another is provided and labeled—England II or Yellowstone Park III, and so on. Separate albums are made for personal or private cards, those of stage celebrities, Christmas remembrances, prominent people or ob-

jects of art. The merely fancy cards have a book to themselves;. Prized most of all in this collection are the albums wherein are housed what are called "commemoratives," or cards dealing with historical or topical events.

In the choice of albums themselves there will be found a large variety as to size, shape and capacity. They may be purchased, according to these specifications, at from 25 cents to \$5, and the collector who cannot find exactly the book he wants among the many varieties now in the market is difficult to please.

For the masterpieces of the collection there are post card cabinets, into which the envious public may look, admire and not handle. The collector owes a debt of gratitude to an Englishman named Hartman for having first printed on the front of a post card the official regulation allowing users of picture post cards to write on one-half of the address side. This concession is of great value to the collector, who in his eagerness to possess the precious card cares nothing for the written message and only covets the picture.

That the sending of postcards has "caught on" the official reports from the post office at Washington shows very plainly, and a large publishing firm that makes a specialty of picture cards attributes the increase in last year's profits to the sales in the post cards department.

From whatever standpoint one looks at this card collecting, it is a delightful, instructive and interesting hobby, and, like charity, is twice blessed, for it pleases both oneself and one's friends, and a good collector of post cards is a present delight and a joy forever.

Another potent distraction is the fad for amassing matchbox stamps, especially Japanese ones, and when

these are prettily arranged they are quite attractive, although not of any great educational or artistic value.

Not so well known or overworked are the seaweed collections. When at the seashore the graceful and dainty sea flowers that come floating up on the sand are a fascinating study and form a beautiful collection. The enthusiasts take a pail with them down to the water's edge and catch the Neptune blossoms as they float in with the tide. Then the trophies are thrown into a large bucket of cold water, and the briny substance is thoroughly soaked out of them. The next move in the modus operari is to have ready a piece of bristol board of a convenient size, and after selecting the special piece of weed to be worked up slip the card board under the treasure and arrange it in an artistic fashion, separating meanwhile the delicate tendrils of the sea flowers with a steel hat pin. A great deal of sea weed is delicately colored. When different shades are combined a bouquet equal in variety and beauty to the flowers of the land garden is the result. When the card is painted with the moss a thin cloth is laid on top and a heavy weight placed on it. The mounts should harmonize with the tint of the sea moss, and in this way lovely marine pictures are evolved.

This work when really well done is an art, and one enterprising Florida girl has put her talent in this direction to a marketable account by making smart dinner cards for the rich northern visitors to the fashionable resorts of the gopher state.

These cards come in sets of twelve. They are cut in different shapes, with the edges beveled or ragged. Guests books are attractive when covered with the mounted sea moss and at bazaars these mounted marine pictures sell like wild fire at wonderfully good prices.

THE METROPOLITAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

President.....	H. D. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
Vice-President.....	J. A. Solomon, East Greenwich R. I.
Sec'y-Treasurer.....	F. A. Mueller, Peake, Nebr.
Sales Sup't.....	L. V. Cass, Sunbury, Pa.
Exchange Supt.....	G. W. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
Attorney.....	J. S. Robertson, St. Thomas, Ont.
Counterfeit Detector.....	Rev. R. Von Pirch, Berlin, Ont.
Librarian.....	Joel H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.
Trustees {	A. D. Blair, Elmira, N. Y.
	J. A. D. Park, Buffalo, N. Y.
	R. F. Baldwin, Chicago, Ill.

REPRESENTATIVES

Canada.....	Fred Cruse, Walkerville, Ont.
Great Britain.....	W. W. Webster, 11 Leonard St, Derby.
Costa Rica.....	O. P. Nunes, Box 15, Port Limon
New Zealand.....	Robert Brown, Denniston
Guatemala.....	A. L. Godoy, Guatemala City.
Australia.....	H. W. Shelton, Castlemaine, Victoria

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Fellow-members:

I herewith hand you my report for October and am glad to note how we are growing. Write any officer for blanks and join, or if you are a member try to get us some other new members. Election ballots have undoubtedly reached you before now and trust you will all send in your votes promptly so can have all at hand before the 15th of December. Don't neglect to enclose 25c to pay your dues for next year when you send in your vote! I would thank all members to attend promptly to this. The ballots hold practically all the same names as were nominated in last issue of the WEST. Thanking you all for your earnest work and wishing you the best kind of a Thanksgiving for our general prosperity, I am Fraternally yours,

F. A. Mueller, Secy-Treas

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS

Adolf Schneider, 389½ Halsey St, Newark, N. J.	Proposed by
Wendelin Weber, 869 E Eagle St, Buffalo, N. Y.	Munger
B H Schewe, 440 Graham St, Pittsburg, Pa.	Cass
Henry Heckler, 112 Granville St, Halifax, Nova Scotia	Nugent
John Pfalz, 231 W 30th St, New York City	
S D Pierce, St Francis, Minn.	G W Munger
Harry Wennberg, 89 Master Samuelsgatan, Stockholm, Sweden	Munger
Fred Tozer, Channel Isles, Guernsey, England	"
Rev J Toupin, Starnesborough, P. Q., Canada	"
Jerome Taylor, North Sutton, N. H.	"
T J Rodetzky, Beaumont, Texas, 1428 South St	L. Brodstone
L A Van Toor Milwaukee, Wis. 2228 State St	"
John A Lofgren, Everett, Mass. 7 Norman St	"

TREASURER'S REPORT.

From October 5th to November 10th, 1904.

RECEIPTS.

Received from dues and applications	\$3.94
Sales Department75
Miscellaneous donations60
On hand October 5th	9.20

\$14.49

DISBURSEMENTS.

25 stamped envelopes for secretary	\$.53
Prizes50
T. O. Young for stationery	6.00

	\$7.03
Balance on hand October 5th	7.46

\$14.49

SALES SUPT. REPORT

On account of my poor health I have moved to Sunbury, Pa., where I am carrying on all work now. Our society is booming and the department is in better shape than ever. Write me for a circuit as you are sure to pick up many bargains in same. Foreign members I have numbers of fine stamps from their countries at low figures. If you desire to enter any stamps for sale send me 5c each or 6 for 25c for as many books as you will want. All members who wish to participate in this department should write me at once. I solicit your support for another term and I assure all members that I will give the department my best attention. Note the change of address carefully. 11 sheets and 49 books now in the department valued at \$430.85,

Fraternally yours,

Leon V. Cass.

PRIZE DRAWINGS

The new prize contest is becoming even more popular. The plan is familiar to most of our readers but we will repeat it again. You secure one chance for each new member that you get and this gives you a chance on the prizes offered. It pays to get members. For this month we offer as first prize a copy of Scotts' 1905 catalogue. Second prize will be a year's subscription to Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, while a third prize will be a due bill good for 25c. Members are solicited to contribute stamps, philatelic papers, or money to help offer more prizes. For the seventh number drawn next month Mr. Munger will give 50 good stamps from Finland, Sweden and Rhodesia. The October drawings held twenty chances and the prizes were won as follows.

First Prize—H. D. Munger who held number 160.

Second prize—F. A. Mueller, who held number 159.

Third prize—S. D. Howard, who held number 170.

Special prize donated by President Munger was won by L. Crandall.

PERSONAL.

We have grown some this month and we will keep it up. Seems to be great activity lately among our foreign members. Several have sent in fine lots for our sales department.

D

Next month will contain the results of our elections. We hope the results will be as satisfactory to all as those of the late presidential election.

Evidences of Aboriginal Flint Quarries Along The Missouri

By GEO. J. REMSBURG

A strata of flint of much thickness or an aboriginal quarry of any great extent, has not been observed along the Missouri River bluffs in North-eastern Kansas or Northwestern Missouri by the writer, yet, many of the limestone beads afford layers and nodules of cherty material that supplied the demands of the aboriginal implement maker to a very considerable degree. A goodly proportion of the arrowpoints and other flint implements found on the Missouri River village, camp and workshop sites in this region are of materials obtained from the limestone deposits that exist in the localities in which such implements are found.

I have found workshop site where the material used was exclusively the common gray chert of the local limestone beds. I have visited a good many modern rock quarries, and examined numerous out cropping ledges of limestone along the Missouri River bluffs between St Joseph and Kansas City, on both sides of the river, but thus far have succeeded in finding only the ordinary blue and gray chert, and that only in small pockets or nodules, or in stratas of not to exceed two or three inches in thickness. However, other varieties or colors of the material must exist, and have perhaps escaped my observation, for Prof. Jessup, the geologist of Major Long's exploring expedition up the Missouri River in 1819-20, while passing this locality, notes the following:

"The crystalline varieties, no less than the compact blue limestone (of the Missouri River Bluffs) embrace numerous masses of chert or horn-

stone. This occurs of various colors, and these are arranged in spots or stripes. Some specimens have several distinct colors arranged in zigzag lines somewhat resembling fortification agate. The hunters use fragments of this stone for gun flints; the savages also formerly employed it in making arrowpoints and other implements." (From MSS report of Mr. Jessup, geologist of Major Long's expedition, 1819-20, Kansas Historical Collections, vol. 1, 2, p 298.)

Prof. Homes, America's ablest authority on aboriginal quarries, says that these quarry sites may be so hidden away in wild and rugged regions, and so obscured by forests, that the attention of white settlers has never been called to them. And, it might be added, that landslides are of such common occurrence along the Missouri bluffs that many of the old quarry pits of the ancient inhabitants have doubtless been thus obliterated. However, I have found scattered over the slopes of hills in which the flinty limerocks exist, innumerable spalls and cores of chert which had evidently been removed from the ledge by human hands; while on the same ground I have found pebbles that showed in their battered edges, unmistakable evidence of having been employed as hammer-stones. On the other hand I have found along the Missouri River much aboriginal lapidarian material that came from remote localities and must have been obtained by traffic with the tribes of distant sections.

The National Advertiser says that no one advertisement writer can reach more than one-quarter or, at best, one-third of the readers of any paper. One is reached by flattery; one by exaggeration; one by frankness; another by art; another by art. Tastes vary, and no one ever suited the world.

Birth of A Butterfly

I . N . W R I G H T

The butterfly is one of the few living creatures that is "born full size." The moment that a butterfly breaks from a cocoon it is full-size, and never increases in the least as far as length or diameter of body are concerned. However, at that time the wings are damp crumpled and useless. The first thing the new-born butterfly does is to get his wings in shape for flying. This process begins by a little heaving motion of the muscles where the wings join the body. The motion is repeated again and again until the creature appears perfectly exhausted. During the few moments of inactivity the butterfly hangs perfectly motionless to a twig or leaf. If the wind is blowing at such a time it hastens the drying process and aids wonderfully in smoothing out the creases in the wings.

Little by little the gauzy wings begin to show their "feathers" or hairs, first on the shoulders, then extending down the forward outward edge, where the framework is thickest. The thin, short secondary wings sometimes dry first and roll backwards, causing all kinds of odd complications by not allowing the true wings to slip back over them. Nature's provision is wise, however, and on this account the secondaries are allowed to remain perfectly motionless during the efforts to dry the true wings, that provision hastening the drying in the other. In not one case in a hundred, perhaps, do the smaller set of wings dry first.

As the flapping process in the true wings goes on, strength is infused into the veins which mark them like the veins in a leaf. Gradually the gauzy thing unfolds and expands un-

til they lift and stand erect—light, airy and strong enough for the offices which nature intended they should perform.

Sometimes a newly hatched butterfly will spend a whole day drying its wings before making an attempt to fly. This is especially true if the weather should happen to be damp at the time of leaving the cocoon.

OLDEST OF KNOWN COINS.

That money, in the form of coin, should be a comparatively recent invention, if we may use the word, seems too odd to be true, says English Country Life. But we are reminded of the fact by the news, sent from Turkey in Asia, that a German archaeologist has just obtained the oldest coin in existence, which only dates from the ninth century before the Christian era. It was from the mint, if the expression may be used of such an early date, of an Aramean King of Schamol. The oldest known coin is, we believe, about 12 centuries older than the oldest existing book. But coins, being made of the precious metals, are enormously durable. Some of the earliest and best coins of the Mediterranean basin are those of the old Greek colony of Cyzicus, on the Hellespont, and probably the oldest existing piece of metal work of which the date is known is the tripod, made to celebrate the victory of Plataea by the Greeks over the Persians. The golden ball which it supported is gone. But the tripod itself, designed to imitate twisted serpents, is still kept in the mosque of St. Sophia at Constantinople.



Copying Without a Special Lens.

By R. P. Kiest.

I wanted to copy a cabinet picture recently and not wishing to go to the expense of a special copying lens or await its arrival from a distant stock house, I set about the work after my own ideas. As we all know, the lens that is supplied with our cameras will not copy full size unless racked out to just double its focal length.

Few cameras will allow of this increased draw of the bellows.

I possessed an old telescope; one of the cheap, 99 cent variety. I removed one of the smaller lenses and fitting it to a short barrel made of pasteboard, I placed it outside of lens and shutter by slipping the cardboard barrel over the front of the original lens on the camera. The cabinet I wished to copy was set up directly in front of the lens at a distance of about nine inches with its center directly on a line with the center of the lens.

I worked near a north window with the camera and picture to be copied so arranged that the light fell on the copy from the front and side. With the camera on a table in front of the window, a line from the ground glass through the lens to the copy should be parallel to the wall containing the window. The copy should be a little past the edge of the window so that the light comes from the front as

well as the side. Care should be taken to keep the camera straight with the picture and the fine focusing is best done by moving the camera to and from the picture to be copied, if one is working on a table.

An exposure of 18 or 20 seconds was found to be about right on an ordinary rapid plate. I sometimes use larger lens taken from a pair of opera glasses. This is screwed on the inside of the lens board. Both methods give good results and I would advise the readers of the WEST to give the work a trial during the winter. They will find many pictures around their homes that it would be desirable to have copied. The original may become lost or destroyed or copies may be desired to send friends or relations.

A STORY OF FALK.

When Falk was in Boston, according to the Evening News, he had occasion to call up his New York studio, but could not make them understand. The exchange kept on telling him to speak louder, until his voice threatened to smash the instrument. Finally they said, "You will have to talk louder if you want New York to hear you." "Talk louder," said the enraged photographer, "if I could talk any louder I should not need your infernal telephone."



American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.

Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
shipcard sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.

Ones marked x are souvenir card
collectors.

5233 C D Lehumkuh, U. S. Naval
Station, Guam.

4 E Cleveland, Milwaukee, 203
Burrell St.

5 D Wilby, Bx 34 Edmonton, Al-
berta, Canada.

6 Dr Geo. J Ward, St Clair, Mich

7 Lucy Lawson, Brooken, Ind Ter

8 Edith S Watson, East Winsdor
Hill, Conn.

9 xA P Jones, Southend, Eng.

5240 E L Davis, Elroy, Kan.

1 E Höllenbeck, Minneapoils,
Minn, 12 E 14 St.

2 E Sagaser, Brookfield, Mo.

3 P A Wooding, Brockville, Can.

4 Hazel Alkire, Clayton, N J.

5 xD W Babcock, Berlin, Md.

6 xM Clark, Northampton, Mass,
4 Bates.

7 xJ Dick, Firth, Nebr.

8 x Dr F Michael, Ferndale, Calif

9 xM Tucker, Providence, R I,
45 Baker St.

5240 xW S Tripp, Sioux City, Ia.,
112 6 St.

1 xG Murray, London, Canada,
47 Stanley.

2 xJ Asplet, Chicago, 224 E 53 St.

3 xW S Odroyd, Springfield, Mass
18 Olive.

4 F Hammond, Eldora, Ia.

5 F H Ward, Yuba City, Calif.

6 xE Sheahan, Portland, Ore, 647
Wilder.

7 xJ R Bröwn, Mosgiel, Otago N Z

8 xF P Stema, Groigen, Holland.

9 xJean G Tampartis, Crete,
Greece

5260 xE H Gough, Naiamo, B C, Can

1 xM Casper, N Y City, 1035 Lex.
Ave.

2 xAlice Keene, London, Canada.

3 xMiss A Rennlilard, 25 Cherry,
Northhampton, Mass.

4 xF J Raitzky, Beaumont, Tex
1428 South.

5 xA Underwood, Rochester, N Y
294, Mt Hope

6 xT W Charlesworth, Arkona,
Ontario, Canada.

7x R A Pearson, Coventry, Eng,
4 Trinity Ter.

8 xM Leonard, Newark, N Y.

9 xMiss Hanlon, Inishannon, Ire-
land.

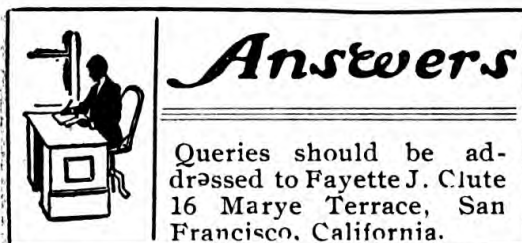
5270 xA McDonald, Great Falls,
Mont, Park Hotel.

1 xL Nelson, Kingsbury, Calif.

2 xA Carpenter, Wilmington,
Del, Bx 993.

3 xA Berlin, Bönner, Springs, Kan

4 xH Bridendall, Tuanah, Texas.



C. R. T. Cutting Glass Bottles, etc.—An easy and satisfactory method of accomplishing the usually difficult task of cutting off a piece of a glass bottle, jar, or tube is here given. I have used it with success. Stand the bottle, upright on a level table (if it is required to cut a tube cork one end up), carefully fill up to the part required to be cut off with oil (any oil almost will do, except paraffin), so that none of it runs down the inner sides of the bottle; to prevent this pour oil down through a funnel into the bottle. Heat a piece of iron, say a kitchen poker, red hot, push it down into the oil inside of the bottle, and in a minute or so you will hear a slight cracking noise. The top of the bottle may be lifted off with a cloth to save burning the fingers, revealing a clean cut as if done with a diamond on a level with the height of the oil. Then pour out the oil, and you have the part required.

C. H. N. To make a vignetting shape for a bromide printing:—Cut out the shape and size required in a piece of cardboard, and over it paste three sheets of tissue paper. In one piece of the tissue the opening should be trifle smaller than in the card, and in the second piece a little smaller than in the first; the third sheet is not cut. A finer gradation may be obtained by turning the printing frame about, so that in turn the top, bottom, and sides are inclined towards the light during exposure.

The exposure must be lengthened about one-half to compensate for the light absorbed for the tissue.

W. H. M. Frilling:—Often caused by the difference in the temperature of the developer and the fixing bath. Hypo, in common with many other chemicals, undergoes a lowering of temperature while dissolving. To remedy this, make up a stock solution of hypo as follows: Place two pounds of hypo in a muslin bag, and suspend it inside a wide-mouthed bottle containing thirty-two ounces of water. It will soon dissolve if this method be adopted. For fixing plates take three ounces of this stock solution and add four ounces of water. When used, do not throw it away, but put it in a bottle for future use. It can be used over and over again until discolored. For fixing prints take one and a half ounces of stock solution and add eight and a half ounces of stock solution and add eight and a half ounces of water; this, however, should not be used for more than one batch of prints.

R. R. B. A Good cleansing composition—for the polished woodwork of photographic apparatus, says Hobbies is raw linseed oil three ounces, butter of antimony a quarter of an ounce, methylated spirit one and a half ounces, and white wine vinegar one and a half ounces. The oil and vinegar should be mixed, first, and the other ingredients added, the mixture being well shaken. After polishing the woodwork, the brass fittings may be brightened with one of the many metal polishes now on the market.

LIGHTNING PHOTOS EASY

Any boy or girl who has a camera and a good stock of patience may secure a photograph of lightning. The patience is needed in waiting for the lightning. When a thunder shower comes at night keep a sharp look out for an opportunity to secure your picture. Clouds or a heavy down pour of rain often conceal the flash from view and we have "sheet lightning." It is useless to photograph this, but you may by its light get an interesting picture of the landscape. When the sharp "chain lightning" comes, select a window from which you can see it well, or, if it is not raining, go out of doors and set the camera on the tripod focused as for a distant view and pointed toward that quarter of the heavens in which the lightning is most frequent. The diaphragm should be set to the largest opening that is ever used, the slide drawn and the lens uncovered as for a time exposure. Then follows a wait of one, two, five or even 20 minutes, until a bright flash comes within the field of view of the camera, when the lightning takes its own picture.

Then cover the lens, push in the slide and you are ready to try again on a fresh plate.

A REMEDY FOR OVER EXPOSED PLATES.

Many over-exposed negatives can be saved, when using a two solution developer, by keeping at hand, a very dilute solution of No. 1, in the proportion of about one to eight of water. When the image, during development, flashes up and threatens to cloud over, quickly transfer the plate to this diluted mixture, effect being instantly to retard development and cause the negative gradually to acquire density and

detail. After a minute or so, the developer may be again poured over the plate for a brief moment, then poured off and replaced by the No. 1, and so, on, until development is complete. A negative equal to one correctly exposed will result, having good gradation, and plenty of detail.

Should it be known prior to development, that the photograph is over exposed, it is well to start with the developer mixed in the proportions of two parts No. 1 to one part No. 2.

EXPOSURES WITH PANORAMIC CAMERAS.

Such exposures cannot, of course, exceed the time which the lens, when fitted with the strongest brake, takes to complete its travel. is only a fractional portion of this time is given to each section of the plate, difficult subjects may still prove under-exposed. If, however, the camera is firmly screwed down to a rigid tripod, the lens may be caused to repeat its travel several times at its slowest speed without introducing blur into the subject itself is stationary.

SPOTTING.

The ordinary spotting-pencil leaves a mark which can be distinctly seen in some lights. If you use an ordinary writing pencil, and then moisten the tip of the finger, and apply to parts retouched, no trace of the work can be found in any light.—"Photo News."

PLAIN HYPO FIXING BATH.

A plate should always be rinsed well after developing and before fixing, and may be fixed in a plain hypo bath, four parts of water to one part of hyposulphite of soda. Keep immersed until the whitish substance disappears.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.

NEW MEMBERS.

751 Chris Hansen, Superior.

752 F Phillips, Lincoln, 1641 M St.

753 I Nelson, Pibel.

754 R Woodruff, Grand Island.

755 F H Hill, Hastings.

756 A Wakely, Omaha, 208 S 26 Ave

APPLICATIONS

C T Hovet, Fairfield.

H G Bauman, Omaha.

T Casumus, Norfolk.

C R Kate, Wayne.

Making Pictures.

If there is one thing that the average amateur photographer ought to study it is the making of pictures. They can all make photographs. They make them, make thousands of them, but real pictures are rare. It is not hard to learn, and it is not so difficult to apply any knowledge that one may gain in that direction. There is no lack of material and the opportunities are everywhere. There is, just to cite an example, hardly a residence in this broad land that does not contain as a part of its architectural plan some doorway that at the right time of day or under the right lighting, would form an admirable setting for a figure study or a genre picture. There is hardly a family but what some of its members would make most pleasing models for some such picture as I have suggested.

These things are only mentioned to disapprove the idea, too popular by far, that opportunities are wanting. The opportunities are all about us, but it is the eyes to see them that are lacking.

How often do we find in this or

that publication, photographic or otherwise, compositions that are as simple as the most unaffected ones that we could arrange with the material which we have overlooked, simply because it was right at our hands and to which we were so entirely indifferent. We find these more skillful workers have simply applied their power to see pictures, have made use of simple subjects and have achieved results while we have been deploring our lack of opportunities. With the same material that we have so long ignored they have produced pictures that have won them recognition as artists, as many capable of appreciating the beauty that lies all around them.

But how can this knowledge of what is required be obtained, I hear you ask. There are various ways in which the mind may be cultivated to an appreciation of what constitutes pictorial values in our work. The examples published in the better class of photographic magazines are a help. The criticism of one's work by a person who has some knowledge of artistic requirements will aid. Several books on the subject are at the disposal of the earnest seeker after knowledge. Any editor will be glad to recommend the right kind to an inquirer seeking light. A course in one of the several good correspondence schools of photography will assist. With them your work will be criticised and your errors in composition pointed out. Very often one can secure assistance of some one who is himself a worker

who is capable of doing work that is artistic. Such amateurs are as a rule most willing to assist their fellow enthusiasts by helpful criticism if it is asked for in the proper spirit. There are several postal camera clubs throughout the country, and there is always an opening for a new member in some of them. In these clubs the members criticise each other's prints as the monthly albums are sent around. Of course, the criticisms of others as ignorant as one's self are of no great value, but these clubs all contain a few members who are capable of giving the best of advice.

But the main factor is a desire to learn, to progress. With this the rest is but a matter of detail. All that I wish to do in this brief article is to advise the turning of your study into a new and more inviting channel. Give up your experimenting with developers, with toning solutions, and with the technical side of the work, and try the more satisfactory and more profitable study of making pictures. Of making prints you will soon grow tired. Of photographs you no doubt have an ample stock. Give your attention to the production of pictures, and I can assure you your interest will not soon decline, neither will your supply of satisfactory pictures early become a burden. Of this last I am convinced.—St. Louis and Canadian Photographer.



The Carbona Company of St. Paul Minn., are putting out a most excellent line of papers. Carbona Self-Toning, Carbona Water-tone, Carbona Printing Out Paper and a few other specialties. They have recently made arrangements for the purchase of a superior grade of paper stock from one of the best manufacturers of photographic paper in the world and all their paper will be coated on this stock in the future. This will insure an even better article than they have been turning out heretofore. In the manufacture of this raw stock it is almost impossible to avoid small particles of iron which later cause spots on the prints. Send them 25 cents for samples and sufficient toner to tone them and see what a fine article they are turning out. By the time this is in print they will be prepared to send samples of the improved product.

Another most pleasing printing process is that put up by the Lusterine Manufacturing Co. of Long Beach, Calif. It is called Lusterine Sensitized cloth. Send stamp for a sample print and booklet. The cloth prints in one-half the time required for printing out paper: it is permanent, does not tear, curl or crack, and can be washed in hot water when soiled. Besides the evident uses to which it can be applied, uses to which prints on paper would be out of the question; the prints can be mounted by the edges on a card and the edges then covered with a mat.

Mounted in this way the results are surprisingly effective and produce a most pleasing variety in ones work.

TO PRINT FROM WET PLATES.

It very frequently happens that a print is required in a great hurry, and there is no time even to dry the negative with methylated spirit; no time, indeed, to wash out the hypo. In such circumstances the following hints may prove useful. A piece of bromide or gas-light paper soaked in water until quite limp, and is then laid face upward on a clean glass plate. The film negative having been washed to remove as much hypo as time would permit is placed face downward on this paper, and the two are squeegeed into contact. The other side of the card is backed up with some black card or other opaque substance to prevent the light getting at the bromide paper from behind and fogging it, and the whole is held up with the back of the wet film about 12 inches from the gas flame or electric light bulb. The exposure must, of course, vary with the intensity of the light and the density of the film, but twenty seconds with ordinary speed bromide paper and a correctly exposed and developed negative is about right. The two are then separated, the bromide print developed, and the negative is returned to the washing water.

THE RIGHT CAMERA TO BUY.

A long letter to *The American Boy*, from Giles B. Murphy, of Elgin, Ont., asks many important questions, among them the right kind of a camera for one to buy who is going abroad. In this particular case the tourist was to be a young lady, which gives another look to the problem and requires a different answer to where the traveler is a boy.

To the writer's way of thinking, a pocket camera is the most handy for a young lady, even though she has no "pocket." These cameras

close up, open automatically, can easily be focused when they are not of the "universal focus" style, and, with a good lens, can be made to do a wide range of work. While traveling it is best to use films, but at home plates have advantages that must not be lost sight of. So when buying a folding pocket camera it is best to get one adapted to both plates and films.

But how much of a supply of material should a tourist take along? Sit down and make a little calculation. So many days away, so many pictures a day: deduct one half or one third for poor weather or other unfavorable conditions. A little sum in addition and division will give the answer. What kind of paper? What kind of developer? As a rule the developing and printing had best be left until one returns home. Otherwise it might be well to buy a gross or two of developing paper, and several boxes of developing tubes that can be utilized for either developing films, plates or paper.

But what is really the most necessary thing to take on a journey when accompanied with a camera is a considerable quantity of experience. So the very first thing to be done is to learn to intelligently use the camera that is to be taken along. Without this preliminary work, much "snapping" will be time and material wasted. After the camera has been used every day for a month, and the films or plates developed, the limits of the machine will have been discovered, and the impossible in the way of picture-taking will be recognized and avoided.

Have you paid your 1905 dues to your society yet.
 Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,
 Monuments of Heroes, Records of Industrial Achievements;
 Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires; All these and More are Stamps.

The Philatelic West!



Established 1895

Combines The N. Y. & Omaha Philatelist,

The Photo Bulletin, Metropolis, and Curio Monthly

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, PUBLISHED AT SUPERIOR, NEBR., U. S. A

Official Journal of the Following Societies. Aggregating Over 18000 Members

American Camera Club Exchange, Stamp Collectors' Protective Assn. of America, Boys' Collecting Society, Michigan Camera Art Association, Pan-American Camera Workers' League, Spanish-American Philatelic Society, International Souvenir Card Exchange, Stamp Dealers' Protective Association, American Society of Curio Collectors, American Society of Young Scientists, Open Window Club Philatelic Society, Hawkeye Camera Club, Postal Camera Club, Universal Photographers Society, World-Wide Photo Exchange, Natural History Photo Society, Nebraska Philatelic Society, Subscription Stamp Society, Nebraska Camera Club, Kansas City and Kansas Philatelic Society, Southern Philatelic Association, American Souvenir Card Exchange Club, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, National Letters Carriers' Association, Pre-Cancelled Stamp Club, Int-State Philatelic Association, Canadian Philatelic Society, Montana Philatelic Society, New York American Fiscal or Revenue Society, Union Souvenir Card Society, etc.

Vol. 29

DECEMBER 30, 1904

No. 3

Entered at the postoffice of Superior, Neb., as second class mail matter.

L. T. BRODSTONE, Publisher, Superior, Neb., U. S. A.

E. H. WILKINSON, Managing Editor, 210 So. 3rd St., Omaha, Neb.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

CAMERA NEWS: F. J. CLUTE, 16 Marye Terrace, San Francisco.

FOREIGN REVIEW: R. R. THIELE, Wauwatosa, Wis.

CURIO: ROY F. GREENE, Arkansas City, Kas.

DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY: REV. L. G. DORPAT, Box 37, Wayside, Wis.

NUMISMATICS: F. E. ELLIS, 115 North 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PHILO CARTY: MISS M. KELLER, Juneau, Wis. R R 1

Representative New England States—C. W. Brown, Watertown, Mass.

Woman Collectors' Dept.—M. A. Verna Weston Hanway, Dallas, Pa., Bx 156

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 50c per year, 3 years \$1, postage free in the U. S., Canada, Mexico. Other countries \$1, 4 shillings, 4 marks, 5 francs or 5 pesetas.

Send money in a safe way. If you send stamps send lowest value, not over 1c face. Money sent in unregistered letter will be at remitter's risk.

Interesting MSS., items, suggestions and good half-tone, zinc and electro cuts always solicited.

The WEST disclaims responsibility for the opinions of its contributors.

ADVERTISING RATES 10c A LINE. Lower rates based on length of time and amount of space.

Advertising copy should reach us before the 15th or 5th if proof is required.

The WEST is of unequalled value as an advertising medium. It covers territory that no other paper enters, and has the largest field of any. Official organ of 26 prominent societies. THE OLDEST COLLECTORS' PAPER IN AMERICA PUBLISHED BY A NON-DEALER. The largest paid circulation—comparison of subscription books invited. Considering results and circulation, the WEST is the cheapest monthly for the advertiser's use. The longer you stay, the better it pays. An experiment solicited.

This Month We Take Organ of Canadian Premier Philatelic Society, also Montana Philatelic Society. The WEST is Best of all the Rest. It will pay all Advertisers to try it. Copy should be sent in early to secure a good place.

Digitized by Google

Original from
 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

THE MAN WITH A HOBBY.

The man with a hobby is a good one to address your mail order talk to. Philately, numismatics, amateur photography, minerology, philocarty, curio collecting, et cetera, are luxuries. Penurious people avoid them. If a man can afford a hobby, he has money and is willing to spend it. If your goods are of ordinary merit your returns from men with hobbies will be larger than from any other class.

Every subscriber to the WEST is a subscriber because he has a hobby. The WEST is his vade mecum. He reads it as thoroughly as the socialist his Tolstoy. This from Mr. J. W. Werner, of Topeka, is in point: "The 50 pages of ads in each WEST are of absorbing interest. Your reading matter can not be beat, but we cranks must have ads. Ads are our meat, reading matter dessert."

Dealers in those articles in which the man with a hobby is particularly interested find advertising in the WEST immensely profitable. Dealers in any mail order commodity, where it is desirable to reach people of means and intelligence, find the WEST equally productive of results.

The man with a hobby has money to spend—you can reach him through the WEST.

YOUR ADVERTISING PROBLEM SOLVED.

Will my ad be read? is the question that worries every mail order man. He resorts to various methods to accomplish this end. If he knew that every reader of the chosen medium would read his ad he would consistently expect profitable returns.

There is one ad medium where this desideratum obtains. That medium is the WEST.

Men with hobbies are ever on the alert for something new for their collections or for bargains. With the enthusiasm peculiar to their kind, they carefully read the ads, it being desirable to overlook nothing. While the literary section of the WEST is of the highest degree of excellence, the advertising pages offer so many and varied opportunities for gratifying their propinquities that no ad, be it ever so diminutive, is overlooked.

When you advertise in the WEST you accomplish two things: You reach people who are able to and will buy whatever attracts them; your ad is seen and read by every subscriber.

Until recently the ad pages of the WEST have been monopolized by dealers who cater only to hobbyists. We are mail order enthusiasts and are opening up this new field to mail order dealers in general. We invite you to enter it while it is still practically unexplored by your competitors.

CIRCULATION—QUANTITY AND QUALITY.

The WEST has a paid circulation of 15,000 per month. Every reader is a paid subscriber, secured through our extensive advertising in the leading magazines of the country. The readers are composed of people of education and culture. Not only the best class of young people of this and foreign countries, but also prominent business and professional men.

Inquiries received from WEST readers are not mere "curiosity satisfiers."—they're really interested and have the money to buy.

The magazine, being the largest and best of its kind in the world (over 100 pages, illustrated and handsomely bound), each copy is preserved—never destroyed. In this way, in many cases, your ad will do double duty. As a second reading will bring many additional orders from subscribers and from others who are not subscribers who will have an opportunity of reading the old numbers.

We guarantee "The Best and Lots of It," both to subscribers and advertisers.

DROP IN YOUR HOOK.

Bait your business hook with a tempting bit of advertising and drop into a trial space in the WEST. Our readers are not "fake chasers," or

"suckers," but they'll make a "game strike" if your proposition looks good.

We do not believe there's another magazine in the country giving such value for the money as is the WEST at 10 cents a line. There may be others promising as great or even greater circulation at the same rate, but the VALUE of the circulation is what you pay for, and not so much the amount. And then we've never heard of any other magazine so large as the WEST with such a low rate.

The WEST contains over 100 well printed, illustrated, substantially bound pages. A big lot of valuable reading for 50 cents per year. The circulation is growing at an amazing rate.

The advertising rate NOW is 10 cents per line, but it MAY go up most any time, and you'd better come in now and get "on the ground floor."

It's a good proposition,—we **know** it—but you needn't take our word. Just read the "Proof of the Pudding." It follows:

"PROOF OF THE PUDDING."

—We received over 570 orders from our page ad last month.—M. M. Mercantile Co., Greenfield, Ill.

—The WEST gives us more answers and orders than all other papers.—Davis Bros. Curio Co., Kent, Ohio.

Our ads in the WEST have done more good than all other photo papers, will use space in it as long as we advertise.—Lusterine Photo Co., Long Beach, Calif.

—WEST is the first paper where our ad more than paid its cost of the first insertion. It was a go from the start.—Globe Stamp Co., Stamford, Ct.

F. Reid, Denver, Colo.: "I did not expect replies to my first ad, but it has already more than paid for itself. Will take page or more each month."

W. Hofert, Chicago: "The WEST has been responsible for enlarging my bank book. It is without doubt the best paper I ever advertised in."

R. McGill, Chicago: "My ad brought me replies from all over the U. S. and as far as Europe."

The Standford Co., Omaha, Neb.: "Eighty-four replies to our ad so far."

St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co., St. Louis, Mo., who have carried ad in WEST nearly every number for over-six years, say the WEST pays best of all for cost.

NOT ONLY IN THE U. S., BUT—

M. Duhmal, Saint Aver, France: "My ads in WEST gave me many replies."

J. Welsh, Fitzroy, Australia: "My ads in the WEST have given me large bombardment; in fact, too many to take care of."

J. Roberg, Sorel, Canada: "I consider the WEST the best advertising medium, barring none."

H. Lamotte, Paris, France: Just signed third yearly contract. He thinks the WEST a good ad medium.

J. C. Auf Der Heide, Amsterdam, Europe: "My ads in the WEST bring me replies with every mail."

Marks Stamp Co., Toronto, Canada: "We have recommended the WEST to lots of stamp readers who ask for a good paper."

Stanley Gibbons, Inc., New York and London: "We know the WEST has a large circulation by the lot of replies we got for our catalogue."

FROM OUR READERS.

Ira Fisher, Fisher, Ill.: "I must congratulate you on publishing such an interesting paper. I am more than pleased with it. It is just such a paper as I have been looking for. I always look forward to its coming with pleasure. I never want to be without it."

MEXICAN FISCALS.

By F. BROWN. Peru. Iowa.

Documentary Libros

1 1st issue 1874-5 32x48 mm perf. 12, rough yellow gum, white wove paper. Sheets of 50, 5 rows of 10
 1 1c brown 6 25c orange
 2 3c violet 7 50c brown
 3 5c vermillion 8 1p blue
 4 5c orange 9 5p rose
 5 10c green 10 10p black

2nd Issue 74-5 same as above except they are perf 12, smooth white gum instead of yellow. All values.

3rd issue 74-5 horizontally laid paper, perf 12 rough, yellow gum wmk, Renta del Timbre. All values

1876. 26x36 mm perf 12 yellow gum. No wmk. Sheets of 96, 12 rows of 8
 White wove or laid.

11 1c lilac 13 5c bistre
 12 3 carmine 14 10c vermillion
 On yellow wove paper
 15 25c green 17 1d blue green
 16 50c blue 18 5p ochre
 19 10p red

The following varieties occur on paper wmk Renta del Timbre.

3c carmine on white wove
 5c bistre on white laid

1877. Same issue as above surcharged Surcharged "Habitalda-Para-1877"

20 5c violet bistre 21 50c blue
 Surcharged "Habilitada-1877" vertically
 22 5c violet bistre
 Surcharged "Para-1877"
 23 1c lilac 25 5c violet bistre
 24 3c carmine 26 25c green
 27 50c blue

1877. 30x37 mm. perf. 12 wmk as last Yellow gum sheets of 100, 10 rows of 10
 28 1c blue grey 32 25 olive
 29 3c rose 33 50 deep blue
 30 5c olive brown 34 50 deep blue
 31 10 orng vermillion 35 5 red brown

1877. Same as above colors changed

36 1c red 41 50c bright yel.
 37 3c ultramarine 42 50c bistre
 38 5c lilac 43 1p violet
 39 10c orange brown 44 5c yel'ish green
 40 25c violet 45 10c car & black

Nos. 28, 30, 32, 33, 36, 38, 40, 41, 42 have the left figure of value reversed, a mistake of the engraver. Nos 36 to 45 exist on wove paper.

1878. 30x37 mm. Perf. 12½ white wove paper, wmk as last. Sheets of 100
 46 1c green 51 25 green
 47 1c bronze green 52 50 chocolate
 48 3c orange 53 1 ultra marine
 49 5c brown 54 5 carmine
 50 10c vermillion 55 verm & green
 No 51 has left figure reversed

1879. 30x37 mm. Perf 12. Vertically ribbed. Wmk as last. Sheets of 100. 10p 35x55mm

56 1c brown 58 25c slate
 56a 3c ultramarine 58a 50d yellow grn
 57 5c orange 59 1p vermillion
 57a 10c bistre 59a 5p lilac
 60 10p brown and blue

Nos. 56 59 inclusive occur on wove paper also, and Nos. 56 to 57 inclusive on vertically laid paper

1880. 32x36mm. 10p 35x57mm perf 12½. Yellow gum wmk. vertically laid paper. Sheets of 100.

61 1c blue 65 25 uitramarine
 62 3c orange bistre 66 50 lilac
 63 5c green 67 1 emerald green
 64 10 violet 68 5p vermillion

Nos 62, 63 and 66 also exist in finely ribbed wove paper.

1881. 30x40 mm 10 peso 35x57 mm mm perf 12. Yellow gum, wmk, vertically laid paper
 70 1c vermilion 74 25c dark green
 71 3c yellowish grn 75 50c violet
 72 5c orange 76 1p dark blue

73 10c ultramarine 77 5 lilac
78 10p blue and black
No's 70, 71, 72, 73 and 75 are known
on white wove paper. No wmk.
1882. 32x38mm. Perf. 12, sheets of
100, yellow gum, horizontally laid paper
Wmk.

79 1c blue 83 25c ultramarine
80 3c orange 84 50c green
81 5c olive 85 1p purple
82 10c brown 86 5p carmine
87 10p brown and blue
No's 79-84 inclusive are known on
thin paper. No wmk.

1883. 30x40mm. Perf. 12½, horizon-
tally laid paper, sheets of 100. 11 4-5 15
in white gum

88 1c bistre 92 25c orange
89 3c ultramarine 93 50c violet
90 5c deep green 94 1p brown
91 10c vermillion 95 5p carmine
96 10p carmine and black

1883-4. 26x31mm. perf. 12 vertically
laid paper. 100 stamp to sheet 10½x12½
brown gum wmk.

97 1c blue 103 50c orange
98 2c bistre brown 104 1 p violet
99 3c yellow grn 105 5p deep green
100 5c indigo 106 10p grn and brn
101 10c violet brn 107 25p " "
102 25c red 108 50p violet & "
99a 3c dark green

1885-6 23x32 mm perf 12, vertically
laid paper paper sheets of 120. 10 1-10x
12½ in wmk. yellow gum

109 1c olive 115 50c vermillion
110 2c ultramarine 116 1p green
111 3c orange 117 5p blue
112 5c violet 118 10p red
113 10c dark blue 119 25p orange & blk
114 25c brown 120 50p carmine "

Nos 109, 112, 115, 116, and 117 exist on
plain unwmk paper.

Nos 109, 112 and 115 exist on horizon-
tally laid paper, making Nos 109a, 112a,
113d, 115a, 116a, 117a, 109b, 112b and
115b.

1886-7 23x32mm, perf 12 sheets of 12

10 1-10x12½ in, white gum, plain paper.

121 1c brown 126 25c brown
122 2c " 127 50c "
123 3c " 128 1p red or flesh
124 5c " 129 5p "
125 10c " 130 10p "

1887-8 24x31mm perf. 12½. Sheets of
120. 11 1-10x12½ in white gum vertical-
ly laid paper.

131 1c deep green 137 50c deep green
132 2c " 138 1p bright red
133 3c " 139 5p "
135 5c " 140 10p "
136 25c " 142 50p "

All varieties exist unwmk on plain
paper

1888-9 25x30mm perf 12. sheets wmk,
vertically laid paper.

143 1c red 149 50c red
144 2c " 150 1p violet
145 3c " 151 5p "
146 5c " 152 10p "
147 10c " 153 25p "
148 25c " 154 50p "

1889-90 26x33mm perf 12½ white gum
laid paper wmk

155 1c orange 161 50c orange
156 2c " 162 1p blue violet
157 3c " 162a 2p? "" (Lundy)
158 5c " 163 5 " "
159 10c " 164 10 " "
160 25c " 165 25 " "

166-50p blue violet

1889-90 Lundy also gives all values as
existing on white plain paper.

1890-1 33x38mm perf 12½ plain thin
lilac paper No wmk

167 1c green 173 50c green
168 2c " 174 1p carmine
169 3c " 175 5p "
170 5c " 176 10p "
171 10c " 177 25p "
172 25c " 178 50p "

The next installment will give a list
of Federal stamps again let me urge all
collectors of Mexican Fiscals to send
any notes they may be incorporated in
the notes.

(Continued.)

Counterfeits and Their Detection.

BY R R T H I E L E



Genuine

Counterfeit.

Western Australia

The counterfeit above illustrated is one of the 2d yellow of 1865, perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$, watermarked crown or the same value of 1872, perforated 14, or the same value of 1882, watermarked crown A, perforated 12, or finally the same value perforated 14. You have your choice, as the counterfeit has no watermark and the perforation is too ragged to gauge it accurately. The execution is lithographed, while the original is one of Perkins, Bacon Co's line engravings; but the forgery is never the less imitated well enough to deceive the beginner, perhaps even an older collector, for some collectors somehow never seem to acquire the instinctive feeling of distrust which makes them aware of a counterfeit. It is surprising, in fact, how many forgeries, even of the rankest kind, some large collections contain alas, how often must one shatter fond illusions which the trustful collector had entertained as to this or that cherished specimen! But this by the way let us take a closer look at our Western Australian 2d. I may say at the outset that the swan is very well imitated indeed. The yellow color of the stamp makes it difficult clearly to distinguish the details

of the drawing, but the outlines are well done. The upper part of the neck of the swan is rather too thick as compared with the genuine, so that directly under the T of postage the neck of the original measures barely 1mm. in diameter, while the neck of the forgery at the same place measures rather more than $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. in diameter. The same is true, relatively, of the entire vertical right hand curve of the swan's neck. The space found between the neck and the lower part of the wings ends quite pointedly on the original on the forgery it is too rounded at the end, even widening somewhat here, so that the space is somewhat bulbous in appearance.

Better distinctive marks may be found in the inscriptions in fact it is curious how often comparatively well done forgeries fall down on the lettering, which one might suppose to be the easiest part of the stamp to imitate. The entire upper label is too wide, so that all the letters of the word Postage are too tall. For the same reason the label is too close to the neck of the swan under the t of postage the original has fully 1 mm. between the upper inscribed label and the top of the swan's neck, while the forgery in the same place measures barely $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. The colored patch in the upper part of the P on the original is small and quite round, on the forgery it is large and D shaped. The O on the forgery is too tall and therefore appears oval on the original it is round. The lower end of the S on the original is too short and does not extend out as far as the curve above it; on the forgery it extends out farther than the curve. The upper bar of the T on the original is of the same thickness as the vertical bar; on the counterfeit it is thinner than the vertical stroke.

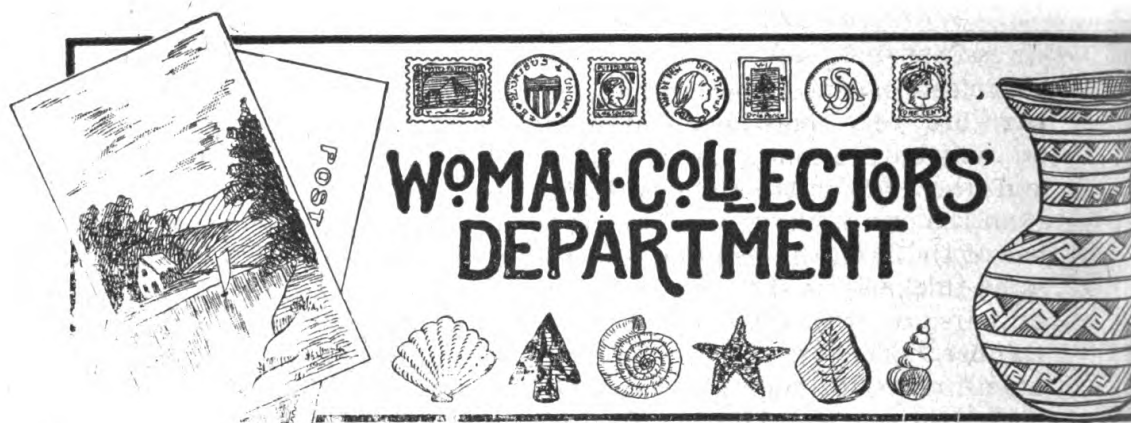
The feet of the A, below the cross-bar, are very short on the original; on the counterfeit they are longer and the one at the right is thicker than the one at the left. The cross-bar of the E on the genuine is of the same thickness as the upper and lower bars; on the forgery it is much thinner. The letters of Australia are all rather thinner on the counterfeit than on the original. The feet of the As are too long; the U is almost square at the bottom instead of round; the lower half of the R is larger than the upper. In Western all the letters of the forgery are too thin. I have two copies of this forgery before me which, while otherwise identical, differ at this point. One of them shows this label of normal width; on the other something seems to have happened to the transfer, so that a slice of this label has been cut off and the W and E are minus part of their tops. The vertical part of the second E on the forgery is much thinner than the horizontal bars while on the original all are of approximately the same thickness. The R is quite mishapen, the foot being widely spread, while on the original the opening is no wider than the patch of color in the upper part. The letters of TWO PENCE are the best formed of any; the most serious defect is that the upper bar of the first E is too thin as compared with the others. The O likewise does not appear very well rounded in its lower part on the forgery.

There are, of, numerous differences to be found in the machine-engraving of the background around the swan, for no human hand can exactly reproduce the lacelike pattern of such lathework. But for the same reason it is virtually impossible to convey a clear idea of these distinctions in words; the only thing to

do here is to compare a suspect with an undoubtedly genuine specimen. Most of my counterfeits of this set are "postmarked" with a number apparently four—of concentric circles. I have no originals showing any similar postmark consisting of parallel horizontal bars forming a circle or an oval and broken in the center by a small circle containing the number of the postoffice or the the letters G. P. O.

(To be continued.)

Much is being written about the abuses of the of the postal franking system. It is stated that postal officials, Congressmen, Senators and others burden the mails with cheap campaign literature on which no postage is paid. If all this were paid for at regular rates there would not be the big deficiency which exists every year. From sixty or seventy tons in 1833, the amount of free matter has grown to thousands of tons. Down to about 1845 Postmasters receiving less than \$2,000 a year salary were allowed 2 cents for handling and delivering each piece of franked matter. From examinations made in the Washington City Postoffice, covering a period of about two and a half months, it was discovered that 979,820 pieces of paid matter and 5,900,000 pieces of unpaid matter of all classes went through, the unpaid matter on some days running as high as 135,000. This year 45,000,000 packages of garden and flower seeds will be sent out, and without a cent being paid for postage. One Congressman recently sent a friend in Missouri a package of seed, and got a letter in return thanking him, and asking him if he could not mail back a sack of wheat, a sack of oats and as many trees as he could get at the Agricultural Department.



Since the time of the first noted woman archeologist, Mme. Schlieman who with her husband made important archeological discoveries in Asia Minor, there have been many women archeologists, and some famous ones.

In England there are today two very learned women, twin sisters, who have devoted their lives to Biblical study—Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Gibbons. Both are Ph. D's of the University of Halle and L. D's of St. Andrews. They became master of the Syriac language which many Biblical students believe to be the language spoken by Christ. There are numerous monasteries perched upon the mountains of Syria, wherein it would be only natural to expect to find important manuscripts of Bible times. So thought the sisters. Among other monasteries visited by them was that of St. Catherine on the Mount of Sinia. Overruling the scruples the good fathers held against women intruding upon their retreat, they were allowed to search the unused portion of the quaint abode. One apartment in particular held many old documents. The English ladies efforts were rewarded by discovering among the number a palimpsest that underneath its outer writing had another which proved to be a record of the sayings of Christ which dated back to within a century and a half of his actual existence upon the earth, thus constituting the

oldest New Testament document in existence.

Scientists acknowledge this to be the most important find ever made.

The sisters are still pursuing their studies and researches of ancient scriptures.

In our own America, Harriet Ann Boyd, a Bostonian, stands foremost. This woman although young, as yet, has had a very checkered career. Receiving a preliminary education in the Boston public schools she entered Smith in 1888. While there the Egyptologist Amelia B. Edwards came to America on a lecture tour and gave an address at Smith. Dr. Edwards' story of archeologic researches among ancient nations made a vivid impression upon the girl's mind which grew as time passed. Overcoming obstacles she went to Greece and entered the American school of Classical Studies at Athens. While there she mastered modern Greek. Then the war broke out between Turkey and Greece. Miss Boyd at once abandoned her studies and became a nurse to the Greek soldires. Her conduct was admirable that Queen Olga presented her with a decoration.

After the war Miss Boyd passed the examinations and won a fellowship. Her attention was then turned towards Crete. When this island became a British protectorate and was thrown open to explorers Miss Boyd seized the opportunity. She

made many important finds that now repose in the museum at Crete.

In 1900 she returned to America and became a teacher of Archaeology at Smith. Reading an address the following winter before the American Institute of Archaeology at Philadelphia she attracted the attention of secretary Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson who used her influence with some wealthy Philadelphians to have Miss Boyd continue her explorations at Crete. Early in 1901, accompanied by a classmate, Miss Blanche E. Wheeler, she started on her second exploring expedition.

Miss Boyd with 100 workmen excavated a hill near Gournia in eastern Crete. When it was completed a whole city was discovered. Implements proved it to have belonged to the bronze age. While about 3400 years old it was more civilized than many American towns today. The streets were paved and stained. There many were two story houses, the lower of stone and the upper of brick, with seven rooms.

Beautiful pottery somewhat like our modern Japanese Vases with carved hieroglyphics so ancient as to have no key. A shrine of the goddess Minerva was also unearthed before which probably heads had bowed that had turned to dust long ere Moses handled the children of Israel from Egypt. A considerable portion of the treasures will be placed in the University of Pennsylvania.

This discovery is especially important because it throws light upon the real life of the mysterious people of Mycenaean civilization. Last spring Miss Boyd started upon her third expedition to Crete, where she is at present.

I shall at some future time continue this paper with sketches of other women archeologists.

CHIT CHAT.

When the number of the WEST containing this department reaches you, you will probably be thinking of other than collecting subjects. There will be all over this vast country—and world, in hill and dale, mountain and valley, city and country, happy anticipations of the joyous Christmas tide. There will be merry home comings; happy meetings between friends of the "auld lang syne."

For a time we will put aside all our tribulations and pleasures and plunge into the merry carnival from Christmas to the New Year.

After all is at an end we take up our old life, turning with renewed zest to the old round of pleasures and duties.

And you, dear Madame or Sir, will take up your especial hobby of hobbies with increased ardor to face the collector's "busy season."

Perchance, dear Madame, you may remember your editor, if so gladden her heart with a letter—yes of criticism. Many of my readers have written to me regarding this department, assuring me that they liked it, which was of course very flattering to my vanity. But I want something more than "taffy," as the school children say. I want criticism, be it as hard as nails, I also want advice for the bettering of this, Madame, your own especial corner. Though you may regard all the rest of the paper yours, this corner is solely and entirely your own to do with as you will. Anything you may care to discuss herein you are at perfect liberty to do so.

Continued.

Washington Notes.

By C M

The Jefferson Bible, the correct title of which is "The Morals of Jesus," is to be reprinted in a new edition of ten thousand. It has been a popular book, and the first edition was soon exhausted.

The annual report of the Smithsonian Institution has just appeared (for 1903): it contains the usual interesting articles on scientific and popular subjects. Either of these books can be procured through Congressmen only.

The decision of the War Department to use hereafter the stamps of Panama in the Canal Zone will render the issues surcharged on U. S. rather rare. While one million each of the, 18 and 10 cent; five million of the twos and 2 million of the fives were surcharged, the destruction of the remainders after a comparatively limited use will make the U. S. set a good one.

The total postal receipts for the island of Guam during the year 1904 were \$288.72, which shows how little necessity there was for the large supply of overprints.

The year 1904 shows a decrease of 3583 fourth class postoffices from 1903, this is due to the extension of rural free delivery there having been 9,447 rural routes established during the year.

The postmaster General is in favor of presenting to the Postal Congress which is to convene in Rome next April the questions of an international stamp and a general plan for making uniform the postal conditions between nations.

Over nine million of unused postal cards which had been rendered unserviceable by being printed on were

redeemed by the Department last year, and it is stated that the rate for redeeming gives general satisfaction except to persons who were buying up these cards at speculative rates and enameling them for resale.

The rubber stamp postmarks have been a decided success, and their use has been extended to over ten thousand of the fourth class offices, and to a few second and third class places. The impression is found to be more legible than from a seldom-used steel stamp, and the pads keep their moisture better and do not grow hard. If the new marks stand the hard wear, as they seem to be doing all right now it is likely that the steel stamp except on the machine canceler will be a comparatively rarity.

The Postoffice Department states that the reform of the second-class matter abuses have been successfully continued during the past year, and it is noted that the decisions of the Department have been sustained by the courts.

During the next year we may expect to see two new types of machine cancellations, the department having contracted with the Time Marking Machine for 50 of their automatic cancelers, and with the Geary National Supply Co., for 20 of their machines. It has been decided to cease to purchase machines of this class, the government having now on hand 410 of the Doremus machines, and finding it more expensive to purchase the Doremus machine and keep it in repair than to rent. It is probable therefore, that the Doremus cancellation will gradually be replaced by others.

The maximum limit for a money order to Cape Colony will shortly be raised to \$100: this colony being the only one to which a lower limit than \$100 for an international order now applies.

Readers:—I have reason to believe that the "UNITED PHILATELIC EMBLEM ASSOCIATION" will prove a success, providing those who have the matter in charge give it the proper attention, and are willing to lay aside for the present, the thought of pecuniary remuneration. It will be considered advantageous for the cause of philately for its followers to wear a standard insignia. It seems strange that this matter has not received more attention in the past than it has, and in my opinion the time has arrived in when the matter should be laid before the stamp collecting public for definite action.

In assuming the duties of Secretary-Treasurer of the new association, I beg to make the following suggestions, some of which have been originated by well known philatelists:

1. Interested persons will submit a drawing or suitable design, with appropriate explanation, for adoption as the insignia on the button of the association.

2. At the end of a specified time, competent judges shall determine the one among those submitted most suitable for adoption as the standard design.

3. A suitable prize shall be awarded the successful competitor.

4. The approved design shall be submitted to a reliable concern, who will submit prices for two or more grades of the finished emblem.

5. When the design and prices have been determined, subscription books shall be opened for the names of those who wish to join the association as honorary members, and who will receive the emblem at cost.

6. Additional representatives shall be appointed in three of the larger cities of the United States, and in the principal foreign countries, who will work for the interests of the association. These shall be reliable

dealers and the benefits shall be mutual, in that they will receive the profits on the sale of the emblem.

7. Co-operation is necessary for the success of this venture, and if YOU do your part it cannot fail. I wish to thank Mr. F. E. Halbert for his interest in this matter, and would request that same be made on white paper, with black ink, and in a 3 inch circle or square. On the back write your name and address, and remarks concerning the design.

In the next issue of the WEST definite plans of this association will be published.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter F. Slusser,

Sec.-Treas., pro tem.

Fort Casey Wash, Dec. 8th., 1904.

The issues of the French colonies which were made many years ago are now considered very desirable. The reason for this seems to lie in the fact that when issued these colonial surcharges were despised by nearly all collectors, so that very few of them were purchased compared with the number of collectors who now desire them. The scarcer stamps have found their way for the most part into collections, and the same brittle quality of paper which has been referred to in connection with the early issues of the United States has caused many of the more common specimens of these French colonial stamps to be injured to such an extent as to make them undesirable for the album,

It is not likely that rare Confederate provisionals could be secured by advertising for them, as has been suggested by several writers. The South was thoroughly canvassed for this purpose a number of years ago, when these provisionals were in much greater demand than they are at present.



Papers desiring an impartial review on the pages of those below, are requested to send a copy of each issue to the address below:

Auslaendische Fachzeitungen sind hoefflichst gebeten ein Tauschexemplar regelmassig an den Unterzeichneten zu senden.

Tous les journaux philateliques sont priés d'envoyer un exemplaire en échange a l'adresse sous-donnée.

Deseameas recibir esemplares de cambio de las publicaciones filatelicas estranjeras a la direccion enseguida.

R. R. Thiele, Box 149, Manchester, Wis. U.S.A

One of our foreign advertisers is the subject of the illustrated article in No. 25 of *Le Timbrophile de France*. It is the well known Parisian dealer Theodore Champion. It may interest our wheelman readers to know that M. Champion was at one time a professional bicyclist and for five years held the bicycle championship of Switzerland. He won a fortune in prizes, but it was lost in the failure of his brother who was also a stamp dealer. He is now the owner of the business formerly owned by M. Forbin and like him is collaborator on the catalogue of Yvert & Tellier, the standard of France; it is he chiefly who fixes the prices in his catalogue.

A small scandal has arisen concerning certain French colonials. The current stamps of Madagascar are made by a private firm, named Wittmann, at Paris. There seems to be a leakage in this establishment some where, of 12, and 5 franc stamps of this etc, gummed and perforated, are now offered to Parisian dealers at prices far below face value. The police have not yet seen fit to interfere, though the matter has been brought

to the attention of General Galieni, the governor-general of the colony. A certain stamp repairer lately threatened Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Company with the exposure of divers letters in which they ordered stamp repairs from him and tried to extort blackmail from them. The firm promptly replied by a public statement of the facts in the case, which were in no wise discreditable to the firm. This same blackmail retried his game on others and in France found some willing to pay his price. He had had some dealings with M. Bernichon, a prominent Parisian dealer. Now M. Forbin l'Hoste had a rod in pickle for M. Bernichon on account of certain law suits he had lost against him and the blackmailer, knowing this, offered M. Bernichon's correspondence to M. Forbin for 3000 francs. The latter bought the letters, had photographs made of them and circulated them with a view to damaging M. Bernichon's reputation. Needless to say that among reputable French philatelists M. Forbin has on the contrary succeeded in blacking his own character. *Le Timbrophile de France*, from which I take these facts, champions M. Bernichon's cause. No doubt this affair will, with other similar ones, lead to some definite result as to the future status of repaired stamps.

In some things Germany is ahead of us, in philately no less than elsewhere. One of them is to be found in No. 10 of the *Vertrauliches Korrespondenz-Blatt* on the report of the Eighth Meeting of the Federation of German-Austrian Philatelic Societies. The question of insurance of exchange circuits in transit and in the hands of members has often been discussed in philatelic societies without much

tangible result. Now it appears that the before mentioned federation has at last succeeded in coming to an agreement with a Swiss insurance company whereby the circuits of the societies composing the federation are insured against the risks of transmission, against theft, both while in the hands of the several members. In the case of the larger societies the entire year's business is insured against that lump sum. The rates are not named, but must be low, as it was deemed more advantageous to insure with the company than have it undertaken by the federation. The idea would seem to merit the attention of societies in this country also.

The sensation of the day in French philatelic circles is the damage suit brought by M. George Carion against the editor of *La Revue Philatelique Française*, the organ of the *Société Française de Timbrologie*. The case grows out of the discussion which has been waged in the French philatelic press for several months past as to the status of certain stamps of Diego Suarez with blue surcharge *Ste. Marie de Madagascar*, purporting to be provisionals for the latter. These showed up some ten years ago under the sponsorship of Mr. Carion. They were promptly denounced as fakes by the French Society and apparently justly so, for they were not heard of any more for a long while. Now they have again been offered by Mr. Carion and again been denounced in the French papers. By one of these articles in the *Revue Philatelique Française* Mr. Carion deemed his honor injured and, according to the report in No. 23-24 of *La Revue Française des Collectionneurs*, brought suit against the editor of the paper named for libel, asking for 25,000 francs damages. The suit was to come off in November and I have not seen any report of the outcome as yet it is apt to have been quite a sensational suit.

The same controversy is dealt with at length in the leading editorial in No. 242 of the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde*. Mr. Robert, the editor, had in a former article asked Mr. Carion the pointed question why he did not take steps to establish the authenticity of his stamps in former years. The explanations given by Mr. Carion are not very satisfactory, but he at least proceeds to do his best now by furnishing certain official documents which seem to establish a fair case for these stamps, although not absolutely convincing. I hope that the decision of the court in the suit may bring some clearness into the matter.

The Transvaal surcharge 1d on 2½d violet of 1895 has heretofore been subdivided only into round and square period. An interesting article in the same number of the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift*, from the pen of Mr. Yaar, now makes a study of this stamp and introduces several other varieties to our notice, most of them in the spacing between the figure and letter and between the letter and the period. Normally the distance between figure and letter is 1¼mm., but on all the stamps of the fifth row (the sheet consists of 60 stamps in 6 horizontal rows of 10) the distance is 1¾mm., and on the stamps of the sixth row it varies from 1¾ to 2½mm. The variety with square period occurs five times in each sheet (not twice, as Kohl's catalogue states) with period placed level and nine times with period placed too high.

As regards the late Dominican provisionals 2c on 50c and 1p, 5c on 50c and 1p, 10c on 50c and 1p, I quote as follows:

"The quantity surcharged of each new value was 5000, except the 5c of which 15,000 were printed on the 50c and 115,000 on the 1 peso. Mr. Boutin further reports that, except perhaps for a letter which did not print well, no varieties are known of this issue, although 3 sheets of each value received the surcharge inverted. "How odd!" the editor remarks.

The following is also of interest:

"Panama has introduced the gold standard. After Nov. 11, 94 Colombian money is declared without value throughout the republic; only the coinage of the republic introduced Sept. 1 has currency. This coinage is the golden balboa, weighing 1,672 gram, divided into 100 parts. The silver coin is the peso, weighing 25 gram, divided into $\frac{1}{2}$, 1-5, 1-10 and 1-20 of a peso."

In connection herewith it is probable that a new issue will appear for the Canal Zone. The agreement lately entered into between Secretary Taft and President Amador provides that Panama is to furnish all stamps used in the Canal Zone and that the Canal Zone authorities are to buy them from Panama at 40 per cent of the face value.

Our friend, the Filatelico Espanol, has almost entirely gone to the fiscalists, a large part of its No. 48-49 being taken up with two articles on fiscals, one dealing with the notarial stamps of the Baleares Islands and the other being the conclusion of the historical article treating the Spanish revenue stamps for explosives. These latter are a Spanish specialty, no other country, as far as I know, having taxed explosives. They were affixed to the packages: if they were placed on the explosives themselves, used as specimens would no doubt be rare indeed.

(Continued).

The Specialists Dream.

By W. E. J. M. E. S. O. N.

'Twas Christmas Eve. My ease I took
Reclining in an old arm-chair,
With pipe and philatelic book,
Pro tem forgetting life's dull care;
When phantoms weird and strange I found
My chair before, behind, around
And one, their chief, with blazing eye
Fixed mine. Forget his words I shan't:
"You are a Specialist—deny
It if you can!" I moaned "I can't."
My lame excuse did not appease—
"I'm such a little one, sir, please!"
"These ill-used ghosts," their spokesmen said,
"By you and such as you are raised.
'Tis time that one and all were laid
(When comes that time the Lord be praised!),
A well-earned rest these shades but seek,
But for themselves they now shall speak,"
Spoke first the Stamp-World's Frankenstein:
"My name is Perfs (then shivered I.)
But added 'names,' as rough machine,
Serrated, wide—you call me by.
Is it not time—pray answer this!
That I'd a rest?" I groaned, "It is."
The Watermark wraith chimed in next;
"In days gone by few men I bored;
Since found by you I've millions vexed,
Tho' e'en by you I'm oft ignored.
And passed by when I should be seen.
Yet 'found' where I have never been!"
Then forward stepped the Gum ghost grim:
"Say! am I 'brown' or 'white' (or 'blue')?
No sticklier I, but I'll stick firm
No more to 'stick it,' sir, with you!
You 'mix' me so—that's true, now come?"
"'Tis true," cried I, "by gum—O Gum!"
His plaint the Paper phantom made;
"O woe is wove, pelure, or ribbed!
My ghost had, but for you been laid,
O granite heart!" At this I jibbed—
"The Dickinson——?" The ghost cried "Fie!
Own to the truth and let me lie!"
Passed Dots and Hairlines in review,
And Stops (I might in Hades be!)
Then, at a signal, off they flew.
Ere went chief, "Repent!" cried he,
"Repent! for time is left you still!"
I shrieked "I do"—some day I will.
'Twas Christmas Eve. My snooze I took.
Reclining in an old arm-chair,
My pipe was out, and dropped my book,
And those weird phantoms vanished were
The bells rang out—the spell they broke,
As, with a shudder I awoke.

Stamp vs Card Collecting And the Advantages of Both

JOSEPH H. WINKERS

I started stamp collecting some six or seven years ago, with about five or eight hundred ordinary mixed stamps presented me by an Uncle, out of which I found about 200 to 300 different kinds. I continued collecting all the varieties I could get, and what with buying, exchanging, etc, I now have nearly 3,000 varieties. At times when I first started my collection, not understanding stamps well enough, would get tired of them for a while, as many others have done also, but nevertheless, I would not dispose of it, and money could not buy it now. Not because the stamps themselves are so very valuable, but because each stamp is a reminder of the happy hours I spent in assorting and placing them in their correct places. I am proud of my collection, principally as it was through my own efforts and with my own spending money that I obtained it.

I have often been asked by my non-philatelic companions, the question, "Why do you save stamps?" and "What good are they anyway?" followed with a lot of ridicule about "Spending money on such trash." These same questions have been the cause of many and many a young collector giving up his stamps, because "somebody" said they were no good and never would be, and as these arguments do seem, to our uninformed young collector to be a great weight, he therefore gives up his collection, either selling it for a mere song or throwing it in the attic or storeroom. Not so with me. To all this argument and ridicule I would have very little to say, only that some day they would find out and that I was satis-

fied to spend my money on stamps.

Stamp collecting as a whole is both instructive and extremely interesting as well as a profitable investment. It is like a higher class of geography as we learn from the stamps, themselves, what kind of people inhabit the different islands and countries of the earth, and to what Republic, Kingdom or Empire these islands belong, what kind of money they use, its value as compared with other currency, where the various islands and smaller countries are situated, and greater than all, we actually get the very stamps that were used in these countries and islands, which is far more interesting than studying about them from books.

A stamp collection to a young boy is an amusement and a pleasant pastime, just as a gun or bicycle; to a young man it is a valuable possession and to the man on the shady side of life, it is a veritable treasure, not to be parted with. It is the happiest reminder of his boyhood days, and he will sit hour after hour pouring over the stamps that were placed in that book probably fifty or sixty years ago and he can recite little incidents relating to each and every one of them, and maybe right now, although it grieves him very much, he is compelled to dispose of his treasures little by little to keep the wolf from the door. Therefore money spent on stamps is like so much put aside for a rainy day.

Now as to collecting Pictorial post cards. I am a new comer in this field, having just started collecting them the latter part of the past summer. Still I have quite a collection already. I find there is a great deal of useful knowledge to be gained from the above pursuit and in some respects it surpasses that of stamp collecting.

(Continued in next number.)

The Passing of The Pre-Cancel.

A. CROZIER

As mentioned by the Washington correspondent of the WEST, the pre-cancelled stamp will soon be almost a thing of the past.

According to the recent order of the Postmaster General, identical pieces of third and fourth class matter may be mailed without stamps affixed, providing the sender complies with the necessary requirements. In the first place there must be not less than two thousand pieces of mail matter, and the patron must make application for privilege to the local postmaster, who will, after he has been properly authorized, issue the necessary permit.

Each piece of mail matter mailed under the provisions of this law must bear on its face in the upper left hand corner, the name of the sender and the office of mailing; and in the upper right hand corner a statement of its class, the amount of postage paid, the word "paid in money," and the permit number.

This will naturally do away with thousands of pre-cancels, as there will be very few firms that will not prefer the latter course. In the case of samples mailed on request, such as "Swamp Root" from Binghamton, N. Y., the new law would hardly be practicable, but such cases will be few.

It is with keen regret that a great many collectors will see the passing of the pre-cancel, for in the few years that they have been in use they struck the popular fancy of many.

Mr. F. L. Smith N. Y. City has perhaps the largest collection, but there are a great many other, among them being Messrs. Duck and Dal-

ton, who have made fine collections in this line.

I myself have derived a great deal of pleasure from collecting in this branch and have handled probably as many of them as any other collector in the country and have traded and sold stamps to all the leading collectors in this line.

WORLD'S FAIR STAMPS NUMBERED 287,990,200

The total issue of the commemorative series of postage stamps for the Louisiana purchase Exposition reached only 287,990,200, as compared with a total for the World's Columbian exposition at Chicago of 2,014,233,100. The issue was even less than of the special stamps for the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo, which was 324,070,000. The total issue of special stamps for the Omaha exposition, covering the two-year period, was 252,532,440. The only reason for the falling off in number of these special stamps issued given by Maj. Reeves, chief of the stamp division of the post office department, is that such stamps are no longer a novelty, that the newness soon wore off, and people were satisfied with the ordinary regulation stamp.

The total issue of Louisiana Purchase stamps by denominations was as follows: One cent, 79,779,200; 2-cent, 192,731,200, 3-cent, 4,542,500; 5-cent, 6,926,100, 10-cent, 4,011,200.

The parcel post treaty between the United States and Japan went into force on August 1. The first parcel post for the United States left Yokohama for Seattle August 2. This is one of the prompt ways in which the Japanese do things.

Philately of The Gods.

Arthur Weellington Wheeler

(Continued.)

My captor spoke: "Oh ye son of philately, I, Mercury Hermes, God of theft, and messenger of the Gods, do come to take thee to the house of the Gods on Mt Olympus. No harm shall befall thee lest thou make resistance which thou hast power given thee to do. Speak, Oh ye mortal!"

"If it may so please your immortal being, a humble mortal, do submit to thy will."

Too frightened to do otherwise I managed to draw out the above dignified sentence.

"Oh ye philatelist ye speak the words of wisdom, follow me!"

As soon as he had said this I felt myself flying through the air in a mysterious manner.

Our flight to Mt. Olympus was not as immediate as might have been expected. Many strange delays prevented us from progressing above a normal rate.

The first delay I remember of was caused by two boys who were desperately fighting over a South American stamp. As we were going over the house where these inmates were combating, my guide saw their proceedings and swept down upon them parting them with his magic wand (The gift of Apollo). We peacefully left them to visit a well known Boston firm which lay in our path. While we were on our way to this place I learned the correct story regarding the way in which Mercury obtained his magic wand. It was this way as told by himself.

Mercury came down to earth one day and returned home with a beautiful set of Seebecks which he gave Apollo, who was so delighted that he

gave him this wand as a token of his appreciation of the gift given him.

For fear of the wrath of the gods, I today refrain from enumerating the incidents of our visit in this Boston stamp shop of which I made mention. But I will venture to say that of this dealer finds that his stock has been diminished let him think of the story of "Young Mercury's theft" and then draw any conclusions that he may desire, regarding the departure of his stock.

After numerous delays we came in sight of Mount Olympus. What a sight that was. Between the high peaks of the mountains that surrounded this famous Mount could be seen a wonderful vista of the reflections made on the sky by the bright objects beneath. The sky at this point in some respects resembled the mirage of the desert. As we drew nearer the Mount our travel became more rapid. The view of the city became more distinct, and the picture on the sky died away. A huge wall became visible, and as we came up to it checked our view of the city. Here on the outside of the wall I waited until a series of proceedings had taken place regarding my entrance. During my wait, to my surprise, I saw millions of familiar "U. S. 2's" stuck to an ornamental cover on the wall and forming the words "Donus Deorum" in an artistic style. As soon as I had noticed these stamps I felt quite at home and was able to bear my long wait much better.

Several new types were revealed to me while studying them so my time was not spent uselessly.

End of Chapter I.

(To be continued.)

Notes on The Stamps of Hayti

VERNA WESTON HANWAY

CATALOGUE REFERENCES STANLEY GIBBONS.

Probably no other country or colony is as interesting and easy of completion as Hayti and probably no other series of stamps are so low priced (the highest catalogued specimen being four dollars) yet so varied.

The specialist has sufficient room to use his powers of mentality for varieties are present of every description, while the general collector finds in this an easy, interesting and instructive country to complete.

Far from being a difficult subject as I remember hearing one youthful collector declare it, it with a little study and application brought to bear is one of the very easiest.

All that is required is a mastery of the perforation guage and a small amount of observation; qualifications which all but the very primary collectors are supposed to possess.

Considering only the catalogued varieties what an interesting field it is for the student who wishes a study not to arduous.

The first issue was made in 1881 (types 1 and 2) on tinted paper and imperforate. This consisted of six values respectively, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 20 cents. The following year another was made of seven values slightly different colors from the first issue. This series was perforated $3\frac{1}{2}$. The next year (1883) an issue of the 2c purple was made upon white paper, this stamp was perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$. Two other sets of the same illustration have been chronicled as perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ and 14 respectively. They are now believed upon good authority to be forgeries made to defraud the

Postoffice. In 1886 an issue was made of some types with head (see illustrations) shaded with crossed lines. This issue was perforated 13. It consisted only of two values, 1 and 2 cent. In 1887 a new type was adopted (type 3) of 1, 2, 3, and 5 cent values, perforated 14. In 1890 a surcharge in red was made changing the value of the 3 cent stamp to 2 cents. Varieties are known of this stamp with a double surcharge.

In 1891 type 5 was adopted, bearing the coat of arms. The values were 1, 2, 3, 3, 5, and 7 cents. This series was perforated 13.

In 1892 further surcharges were made of 2 cent on 3 cent gray. These stamps are also known with a double surcharge.

In 1893 the type was changed slightly (type 6) seven stamps were issued each perforated 14. There are two varieties imperforate 2c and 7 cent.

In 1896-98 the same type was used perforated 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$ of six values. In 1898 two of these were surcharged in red, 2 cent on 20 cent brown and 2c on 20 cent orange. These also are found with double surcharges.

Type seven, watermarked "R. H." and perforated 11 was adopted in 1898 of 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 20 cent values. Only the 2 cent and 5 cent are known postally used. Opinions differ as to the remaining values. One authority states that they were prepared, but never issued for postal use, the reasons for the non usage are not stated. It is a fact however that the majority were bought up by a speculator and therefore must be considered purely as speculative, for very few were sold for genuine postal use.

In 1898 types 8 and 9, perforated 12 were placed on sale. These consisted of various values, the set being intermixed with the two types. In

1900 types 9 was adopted, perforated 13 with colors changed, of three values, 1, 2, and 5 cents. In May 1902 the types 8 and 9 were overprinted with type 10 in black, there are twelve varieties with this surcharge. The stamps of 1898 were also surcharged in black, three values being used, 1 cent blue 2 cent orange and 5 cent brown.

There are a number of varieties of these issues with double surcharges—nine values I think. In another issue the surcharge is found inverted on 11 stamps.

There are also many less important differences I have not noted—paper, surcharge, perforation, shade, color, type, etc. What were the reasons for these many varieties of surcharge and type I do not know. Either they were necessary or the officials were careless, or alas they may have been intended for speculative purposes. I should like to be informed. I, for one consider them perfectly legitimate. At any rate they are an extremely interesting and inexpensive field for philatelic study—and it is surprising how pleasant the study becomes.

The latest and most important map stamp is the recently issued ten-cent stamp of the St. Louis series. While the engraving and design seem very satisfactory the brown color in which the stamp is printed gives it much more the appearance of a label than a postage stamp. Venezuela has issued a large map stamp, printed in light green, that is very beautiful. Few words are on the stamp, and heavy lines are used to indicate the boundaries of the country.

W o e s o f A D e a l e r .

By C L I P

*"It's curious," a man remarked
To me the other day;
"The nuisances a dealer meets
That make his hair turn gray."*

*For instance there's the man who calls
And asks you to display
Some real, rare stamps—some that you
can't
Pick up most any day.*

*You eagerly select the goods
You work with zeal intense
He stays two hours—he's bought ten
stamps
They cost him sixty cents.*

*And there's another class—the kind
That says, "I'd like to see
Your very best—the price is not
Material to me."*

*You show him everything in stock
His patronage to win
He says, "my album is complete
I just thought I'd drop in"*

*Then there's the pest who never means
To buy at any rate
No one has ever seen him spend
A dollar up to date.*

*You labor for an hour or two
You talk your level best
When suddenly he's found, you think
The object of his quest.*

*"I like those stamps first rate," he
says*

*"I think that they will do"
The dealers eyes light up with joy
He can't believe it's true.*

*But wait! Alas! His joy is brief
What's that he hears him say?
"I'll take that lot," he hesitates
Then adds, "but not today."*

Hunting for Curios in New York--Finds I Have Made and Where I Find Them.

By MAXWELL C. B. HART

Continued.

From that time on I kept as strict a vigilance over storage warehouse auction sales as my leisure hours would permit and found myself buying books, paintings, etc., to good advantage.

My next good catch (that as a large profit on a small investment) was a lot consisting of five books and an old stamp album for one dollar and fifty cents (from which I realized a profit of fifty-five dollars. Had the collector been more careful in the selection of perfect stamps for their collection I would have had at least \$300.00 for my one dollar and fifty cent investment but as many valuable stamps were badly mutilated I had to content myself and what was the use of complaining!

I also kept my eye on the fellows who always bought the trunks at storage sales filled with old clothing and old letters, photos and other rubbish (?) and visited them and will describe quite a recent find. On a recent visit to one of these fellows he disclosed a lot of old papers which I bought for two good American dollars and taking my find home I left it until I should return from work at eleven p. m. and this is what I found it to be—nothing less than a lot of documents once the property of John Paulding the son of one of the captors of Major Andre and at one time Mayor of the City of New York. Amongst the papers were parchment land grantes signed by Philip Livingston (one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence),

John Paulding's notice of election as Mayor of the City of New York, document from the secretary of the Navy appointing him to take testimony at the trial of a British Man o' war for firing upon a U. S. vessel and many documents signed by our earliest mayors and notables. I sold this lot to a dealer at a handsome profit and I believe he would willingly give three times the amount for another lot of such historical treasures.

Then let us turn to the book dealers and see how they do business that is the dealers in second hand books. It is a known fact that their is no actual market value for a second handed book the basis of value being "whatever you can get for it and the more the merrier."

Here is an instance of one dealer who thinks he knows all about books and I look over his 10c "plugs" (as dealers term a class of books that are hard sellers) and I find an odd volume of the Arabian Nights with both covers torn off. It was published about 1770 and on the fly leaf I discover the unmistakable autograph of George Cruikshank (the noted illustrator) and on the opposite page a crude sketch made by himself. This book was perhaps read by Cruikshank and from its lines drew inspirations for some of his greatest works. And to get this book for ten cents from a dealer who always presumed to know it all! I sold the book but never realized what the book was worth on account of its associations but it was a find that was welcome.

Second hand book dealers cater to various classes of readers and collectors of certain books. Some cater to collectors of first editions others to the student element and some simply sell books of all classes, then there is the dealer who supplies libraries with

back numbers of magazines, newspapers, etc.

Washington, Franklin, Napoleon and Lincoln receive probably and I may say undoubtedly more attention from the collectors of rare books, prints, old china, etc., than do any other individuals in the World's history and it isn't difficult to frequently pick up something desirable appertaining to them. I have in memory now one book I picked up (an odd volume) for which I paid 5c on a book stand and went right to another dealer and sold it for 75c then I picked up in a bookshop an early French volume printed in Germany with a curious folding plate showing Napoleon in various attitudes, for this I paid fifteen cents and sold it for \$1.75 next day. Many other books have I bought in one book shop only to take it to another and sell it at a handsome profit. My secret of success in this line was to discover what certain dealers could sell to advantage and what they could not use. I paid five cents for one old book (at auction) and found folded up in it an old colonial caricature of Napoleon printed in England in 1807 and realized \$5.00 for this.

With time I discovered other mediums for making finds. I visited the Salvation Army and found books, paintings, etc., from which I could make an honest penny. Then the second hand furniture stores were subjects of some attentions and offered some good results, sometimes a good painting, sometimes books of value, old guns, old china, one never knew what he would cart home. Even the newspapers received my attention and I got from that source a fine file of old New York Herald from 1861 to 1865 (the Civil War period) these were all tied up in months

and yielded about 150 per cent profit.

There is no need going outside of New York or any large city in quest of curios they are more plentiful and more easily acquired than elsewhere it is only a question of knowing where to find them and I will just enumerate my resources the Italian paper dealers for stamps, storage warehouses, auction sales for most anything, likewise second hand furniture dealers. Study the dealer in the second hand book shops and you will soon learn where you can pick up bargains in rarities; don't overlook the Salvation Army where you can find books, paintings, etc. Watch the papers for book auctions when you may discover a sale. I also heard tell of a fellow who made considerable money and good "finds" in a unique way that I haven't yet tried but I expect to do it. His method was this. Whenever he saw a moving van he went upstairs and inquired if the person moving had any books they wanted to get rid of and it need not be dwelt upon he found many lots of books awaiting the junkman or Salvation Army wagon that he got for "a song" (as the saying goes) and picked up many a rare book in this manner.

There are beyond a doubt many other nooks where good things can often be obtained but my knowledge of the wares is continually increasing likewise my sources for procuring them and disposing of them.

There are a number of persons making a good livelihood in this manner in New York and other cities and I have not made the best hauls as I heard tell (from a man whose word is beyond doubt) of a dealer who bought a lot of books and found 2 or 3, I do not remember exactly which) 100 dollar bills in a book by being fastened between two leaves se-

curely pasted together!

In hunting for things quaint and curious one of the greatest essentials is patience for you may travel a month without finding much of moment and then be rewarded by a streak of luck (I have had several of these) and find things galore. The next requisite is to conceal your desire from the dealer for that which you really want and I have often bought two books, one I did not want at all, and would throw away before I reached home so as not to enlighten the dealer for when you select a single book from many his suspicions are aroused and he will put a prohibitive price on the book thus selected. I have even taken six books in this manner to secure one I wanted.

After you get the habit of rummaging during your leisure hours you find it a pleasant pastime which keeps you in a pleasant frame of mind, you meet a varied class of people on your travels and if you keep an account of your purchases and sales and find your extra pin money steadily increasing and reaching several hundred dollars a year your knowledge of values and things you find increasing you will vote it a paying recreation that many would take advantage of if they knew of this interesting field of rummaging right in a big city.

Some day perhaps and it is my wish that I shall hold fort some where in this big city in a shop with a single reading:

MAXWELL C. B. HART

Dealer in

The Quaint and Curious
Old books, prints, stamps, coins, etc.
Bought and Sold.

Letter Post In Canada

By FRANK D. MURPHY

A few words relative to the letter post of Canada may not be misplaced. Letter post was first established in 1703, during Governor Vanderuils term of office, sixty years before Canada became a part of the British empire. Quebec, Three Rivers, Montreal, Fort Frontenac (now Kingston), Niagara and Detroit were the only settlements that were dignified with postoffices.

At the beginning of the 19th century there were only twenty six post-offices in Canada. The mail was carried by mounted letter carriers. The rates of postage were: Halifax to Quebec 32c, to Montreal 40c, to Bytown (now Ottawa) 48c; to Amherstbrug 66c and between Montreal and Quebec 15c. However, these high rates were not the only drawback to the system. Letter writing was not very popular in those days, and many devices were used to avoid payment, for you know mail matter was sent "collect." One scheme was to send a blank letter with dots over the letters forming the address. The receiver pondered over the address, read that all were well in the senders family and then refused to take the letter. In 1851 an end was put to this style of communication when the Canadian government was given control of the postoffice, and the use of postage stamps was introduced. The rates were 3d per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz to any point in Lower and Upper Canada, now Quebec and Ontario.

The first Canadian issue was put on sale in 1852, and consisted of three stamps. The 3d was used on Canadian letters; the 6d one letters to the U. S. excepting Oregon and California; and the 12d and on letters to the two states, I have mentioned, and Great Britain.

The following year a new issue

came out; but the set consisted of stamps of the same denomination as the previous one, and were applied to the same purpose.

Then the government contracted with the Cunard Company by which the latter agreed to carry letters to Europe via Boston and New York at the rate of 10d per half ounce. Thus it was found that a stamp of that denomination was needed and so, in 1855 they were issued.

Two years later (1857) the people demanded a lower rate for "drop letters". Their demand was ceded to, and a $\frac{1}{2}$ d stamp was issued. This year a rival to the Cunard Company sprang up in the form of the Canadian Packet Company, who offered to carry letters to any part of Great Britain and Ireland at the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ d per half ounce. Their offer was accepted and the $7\frac{1}{2}$ d stamp was issued. Then a rate was set in between the rival companies. The Canadian Packet Company always taking the lead, until finally in 1868 they had them down to 15c and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c respectfully.

A matter of importance for the welfare of the Canadian people was the introduction in 1858 of decimal currency, whereby they began to reckon in dollars and cents instead of £, s, and d. This necessitated a change in stamps, and the next year (1859) a new set with the values in cents was issued. The rates were also reduced on letters. Those going between two points in Canada were reduced from 3d per half ounce to 5ct., while 10c instead of 6d was the charge for letters to the U. S. On account of so many British soldiers being quartered in Canada during the American Civil War the price of soldiers' letters was lowered to 2c per half ounce, and for this reason the 2c stamp of the 1854-64 issue was put on sale. Up to this time the Canadian stamps were used only in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, but

in 1864 a Confederation of these provinces together with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was found. By the passing of the British North America Act on the 28th of February 1867, and which came into force July 1st of that year; the four provinces already named were formed into a confederation and were known as the Dominion of Canada. Among the other provinces of this Act was one which gave the Dominion Government control of the postoffice. This put an end to the provincial issues of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The following year (1868) a new issue came out for use in the Dominion. The design of the stamps of this issue were changed. The $\frac{1}{2}$ c was for newspapers. The 1c for drop letters and the 3c for Canadian letters weighing one ounce.

By the passing of the Manitoba Act in 1871 the province of Manitoba was admitted to the Dominion, thus giving a larger field for the use of Canadian stamps. British Columbia entered the Confederation the same year; and Prince Edward Island, the last to join, came in two years later (1873).

In 1898 Canada adopted the use of penny postage i. e. 2c per ounce or fraction thereof for letters anywhere in Canada or the U. S., and 2c per half ounce for letters to Great Britain and Ireland, and any of the British Colonies where the penny postage system is in use. For the benefit of the readers of this article, who are doubtful as to the relations of Canada and Newfoundland, I will state that the form of government used in Newfoundland is the same as was used in the different provinces before the Confederation i. e., Responsible Government. Newfoundland may join the Dominion whenever it is so inclined, but it has kept out so long that it is doubtful when it will come in.



DEPARTMENT OF INQUIRY.

By L. G. DORPAT, Bx 37, Wayside, Wis.

Questions relative to stamps will be answered in this column free of charge to subscribers. All questions must be sent to the above address and a 2c stamp must accompany each letter containing questions. When stamps are sent for examination, return postage must be included besides the fee above provided for.

207. "What varieties are there of the Confederate 10c 1863?" There is first of all one with the value expressed in words "Ten cents." The others, which have the value in figures may be described as follows:

1. Ornaments at corners clear and rounded, two white lines between oval and upper tablet:

a. light blu(milky) { wove or } imp } 8 possible
b. dark blue { laid pap } perf } varieties.

2. Ornaments at corners indistinct or broken, three lines between oval and upper tablet:

a. light blu(milky) { wove or } imp } 12 possible
b. dark blue { laid pap } perf } varieties
c. greenish blue { laid pap } perf } varieties

3. Rectangular frame of one thin line surrounding the whole stamp.

How many minor varieties of this stamp may exist I do not know, nor can I tell whether it is of the first or second, or of both types, as mentioned above under 1 and 2. There were two printings, one at Richmond and one at Columbia, and from both clear and rougher impressions are reported, also a difference of gum, light and dark brown, is mentioned.

4. A thin one lined frame running outside along the whole contour of the frame or stamp.

There have been reprints and possibly this is one of them. I have not a sufficient number of these stamps in hand to arrive at any definite conclusion, but from what I can learn of my material and catalogues,

it may be seen that there is quite a number of varieties and the field is partly undiscovered, offering a fine chance for further research.

223. "How many postage stamps have been issued in the whole world?" This is a good one! To give an exact answer would require perhaps a year's work. A conservative, very conservative, estimate puts the number of different stamps in the world at something between 18 and 20 thousand. Europe 3700, Asia 4300, Africa 3700, Australia 1300, North America 760, South America 2300, South America 2300, Central America 750 and West Indies 2000. The Stamp Collectors Fortnightly places the figures a little higher, giving Great Britain and colonies 5,916, and America with Central America and West Indies included 6,095, and the world's total at 19,942. As there are some stamps, the character of which is disputable, the figure may easily be raised or lowered according to what kinds of stamps are included or excluded. If, for instance, we begin to count varieties, we may easily double or perhaps treble the numbers. I have seen an estimate somewhere that was put at something over 27,000. This may easily be reached, if we count envelopes, cards, wrappers, letter-sheets and some of the most marked varieties, but by counting all minor varieties we may easily come up to 40, 50 or even 100 thousand. A collection of the minor varieties of Mexico alone might be carried above 25,000 whilst a straight collection of this country would amount to about 250 only. If the inquirer meant to ask how many stamps of all kinds were ever issued, the figures will go way beyond the millions and billions, because of many a kind more than several billions are used, before that kind is replaced by

another. The U. S. 2c for an example, is such a billion stamp. Of course, some are also made in very small issues. That was often the case with those stamps that were issued from 1840 to 1860 and which are now the great rarities. Thus of the Canada 12d, first issue, 1510 only are said to have been sold. There are others which were sold and even printed in still much smaller quantities, the St. Louis postmasters 20 cents will serve as an example. Perhaps from the Berne office of the Universal Postal Union some statistics may be obtained, but I do not think that they are complete, nor that anybody in the world has any complete statistics. Let me venture to guess at the number of stamps ever used in the world! I would assume an average of say 1,000,000 stamps of each kind

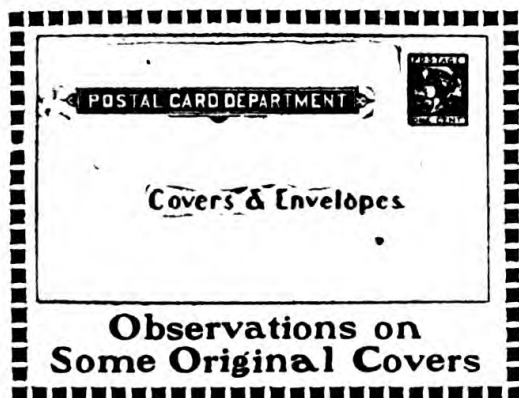
That would make according to the above first estimate 1,000,000 times 18,000 stamps, that is 18,000,000,000 or in words eighteen billion, or according to the last estimate including varieties 100,000,000,000. The latter is probably nearer correct than the former; yet I think both figures are too low, as the the United States alone issued from 1894 to 1900 over 113 million postage due stamps and over 17 billion postage stamps, that is for 6 years, exclusive of envelopes cards, etc.

224. "What would be the value of a complete collection of postage stamps of the world?" The answer to this query would depend much on the exactness of the answer to the previous query, and what one would call a complete collection. A collection of 18,000 varieties may be worth between 500 thousand and 1 million dollars, according to whether the very rarest are included or not. But a collection of 100,000 varieties may be estimated at 10 to 20 million dollars. As far as I know, this is all

imaginary, for no one has ever attempted a collection of such a size, though one collection F. W. Ayer's has been sold for over \$200,000.


A. B. C. OF POSTAGE STAMPS.—A Guide to The Instructive and Entertaining Study of the World's postage Stamps by F. J. Melvilie. President of the Junior Philatelic Society of London.

The above is the title of a neat little book of 159 pages 4x5 $\frac{1}{4}$ crammed from cover to cover with useful philatelic information written in a pleasing style by an able author and ornamented with 19 beautiful plates. The only thing that is wanting is an index or table of contents. It is a book that should be read again and again, until one knows its contents by heart: this thought probably induced the author to leave the index away, expecting that the reader will not quit the book before he has assimilated all it contains and will then not need any index. The price bound in cloth, is 50 cents, and no collector, who is not well advanced in philatelic reading will regret paying that small sum for a helpful book. Beside a good catalogue and an album it is the first book one ought to have, so as to enable him to collect intelligently and to avoid the many pitfalls that otherwise threaten the inexperienced. The author, no doubt, paid heavily in money, time and vexation for what he offers the reader in such a comprehensive and fascinating way. Societies might do well to order the book at club rates and to provide every one of their members with a copy. The more philatelic reading is encouraged, the greater shall be the pleasures that come from collecting. On the other hand, it's a poor sight to see a collector declaring that he knows nothing of stamps. After reading this A. B. C. one need not confess philatelic ignorance.

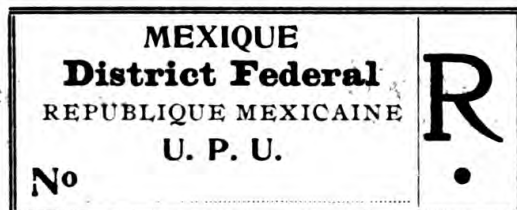


By R. R. THIELE
(Continued.)

On an original cover submitted to me by Brother Brodstone I find a postmark which is new to me on registered mail. The letter comes from the Federal capital of Mexico. The five 3c brown stamps of the current issue which paid postage and registration are cancelled with a circular postmark reading

Sucursal V. 
19 Oct. 1904-1:40 p. m.
Mexico, D. F.

The date is in a broad band across the centre; the spaces between this and the upper and lower inscriptions are filled with vertical lines, after the fashion originally used in Switzerland, but now employed likewise in various other countries, Germany for example. Sucursal means Branch office V being its number. The letter also bears the international registration label of this design:



This is printed in red on white paper; the number is inserted with pen and ink. Another registry number is struck on the face of the letter in blue ink by a numbering machine;

it does not appear where this was done, but probably at the exchange office (though none is mentioned) or at St. Louis. This latter office figures on the back of the letter with the peculiar postmark already alluded to. It is struck in red aniline ink and reads as follows:

Transmitted Through
Oct. 23 1904
St. Louis Mo.,
As registered mail.

I have not heretofore seen this postmark and wonder at its peculiar wording; usually such marks read "Registry Division" or something like that. Is this kind of postmark in use at other offices also?

A curious illustration of the transition stage in which Cuba finds herself is found on the envelope of a letter lately come from Havana, Cuba. It bears seven stamps of the current issue: four 1c and three 2c postage and registration. The stamps are canceled with a postmark consisting of four parallel pairs of lines, extending continuously over the strip of four or three, respectively, and broken at regular intervals by the letter. It is not a machine stamp—rather something of a wheel, it seems. The letter further bears on its face the rubber handstamp in blue ink:

Reg. No.
Sept. 17 1904
Sub-station E, Havana.

The number 1223 is inserted with pen and ink, besides this the letter bears three other numbers; 233, 2112 and 2659 without indication of origin. To judge by the character of the figures 233 is of Cuban provenience. This postmark is a relic of the American occupation; you will notice that it is still worded in English. I suppose the Cuban administration is using these American handstamps up from motives of economy. New ones

are supplied in Spanish, as may be seen from another handstamp on the back of the letter, also struck in blue aniline ink.

Recibido
Sep 17 1904
CERTIFICADOS
Habana

Thus is Cuba coming into her own more and more. Notice the difference between the American and the Spanish way of spelling Havana or Habana, B and V being almost the same in Spanish. Most Spanish-speaking countries also describe a registered letter as certificado or certificado, except in international usage. The letter then went to Jacksonville as part of entry, this being shown by the following postmark

R. W. Telfair, Reg. Clerk,
Sep. 22, 1904.
Jacksonville, Fla.

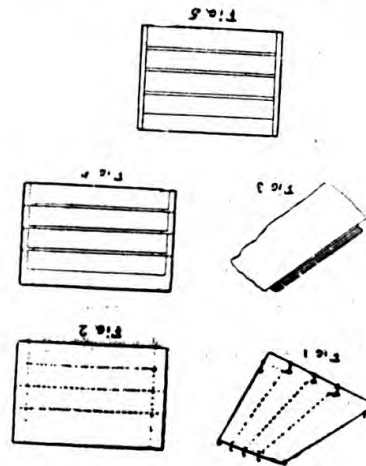
All between double concentric circles, the date in the centre (5 days, by the way, from Havana to Jacksonville seems a little slow). The name of the registry clerk is another unusual addition to the registration postmark; it is an innovation at Jacksonville also, I believe.

A Stock Book **By ELMA IONA LOCKE**

I would suggest an improvement on the plan for a stock book given in the September WEST, as follows: Procure, or make, a blank book of the desired size. If home-made, it would be a good plan to bind strips of thin cardboard in the back between the leaves, to prevent too great bulging when filled with stamps.

Then take very thin, but tough, parchment paper, so thin that the stamps will show through very plainly; cut it in inch-wide strips as long

as the leaves of the book are wide and with good mucilage gum a narrow line along one side and across each end of the strips, and fasten at convenient distances upon the pages of the book, as pockets for your stamps. A drop of gum to divide the pockets into smaller compartments, will prevent the stamps from sliding together and getting mixed.



With a book made in this way, you do not have to remove the stamps or label the compartments, to know what you have, for a glance at the page shows you just what the pockets contain, and other varieties may be substituted whenever desired with no trouble of changing labels, etc.

The kodak fiend might utilize his spoilt films by cleaning them of all traces of the emulsion, cutting them into strips, and using them for the pockets; the transparent celluloid showing up the stamps as plainly as would clear glass.

A slot machine was recently placed on trial at The Hague, Holland. The object was to distribute 2½ cent stamps when money was deposited in the slot. The machine contained 740 stamps and but 147 were sold, so the plan was declared a failure.

A Catalogue of the Stamps of Trinidad with Notes

W M . E . A V L T

(Continued.)

IV Fourth Issue. 1863-1864.

In 1863 De al Rue & Co., of London began the printing of the stamps for Trinidad. This firm has held the contract to this date. The first stamps issued by this house were of the same type and impression as the Third Issue and were printed on thick wove paper slightly surfaced.

Unwatermarked.

a. Perforated 11½

(1d) carmine

4d lilac

6d green

1s slate blue

b. Perforated 12

(1d) carmine

4d reddish lilac

4d brown lilac

4d lilac

4d purple

6d yellow green

6d blue-green

1s slate-blue

c. Perforated 11½'1x2

(1d) carmine

d. Perforated 12½

(1d) lake

4d purple-brown

e. Perforated 13.

(1d) lake

6d emerald-green

1s bright mauve

V. Fifth Issue. 1864-1876.

In 1864 De la Rue & Co. began the use of watermarked paper for this colony, using the regular Crown and C C. Type is the same as preceeding issue, printed white wove paper varying from thick to thin.

Wmk. Crown and C C. Perf. 12½.

(1d) lake

(1d) rose

(1d) scarlet

(1d) carmine

(1d) vermillion

4d bright violet

4d pale mauve

4d illac

4d gray lilac

6d green

6d yellow-green

6d emerald-green

6d blue-green

1s purple

1s indigo

1s violet

1s ilalc

1s gray-lilac

1s red-lilac

This issue continued in use until 1876 and the following varieties of stamps are known imperforate:

(1d) rose

(4d) bright violet

6d yellow-green

6d blue-green

1s purple

1s indigo

1s violet

It has been stated by one writer on the stamps of Trinidad that this issue also appeared Perforated 13, but no stamps showing this perforation are known.

VI. Sixth Issue, 1869.

This issue consisted of a single value, 5sh., being typographed on white wove paper, watermarked same as previous issue.

Watermarked Crown and C. C. Perforated 12½.

5sh. dull lake

A variety exists imperforate.

(To be continued.)

The Stamps of the Netherlands

C. GRANDPIERRE

(Continued).

There is less to say about this than about the previous issues. The dies seem to have been made of harder material (steel) and have been less often retouched. The difference between the re-engravings is less apparent, the only noticeable being heavier lines of shading on the latter prints. The 5 cent is characterized by nearly all the different shapes of the numeral found on the 5 cent of the previous king's head issue.

PAPER.

The prints previous to 1894 are of soft wove of medium thickness and opaque, chiefly mottled in texture though some copies are to be found on very smooth and others (rare) on slightly ribbed paper. With the change of colors (1849) we have a harder somewhat transparent paper of regular smoothness and thickness.

Senf reports the 5 and 20 cents on thick rugged paper perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ saying that they are the earliest prints which were never issued on account of the rough impression. He prices them at 1k 10. (\$2.50) each.

SHADES.

There is little to say about the shades of the 3, $7\frac{1}{2}$, 15 cents and higher values except the classification given above.

The early prints of the 5c are of a dark blue, getting paler by 1892-93, turning to pale and dull ultramarine. Some copies of a decidedly blue-lilac are to be found. The introduction of the anilin colors seem to have occasioned a great deal of essays. Some of the first anilin prints are quite prussian-blue, other sky-blue or pale bright ultramarine. 1859 the printer

seems to have found the color wanted. From that time we have a constant bright ultramarine.

The original shape of the 10 cents was carmine-rose. Later we have carmine, carmine lake, brown-lake, red-brick shades and (1894) the regular carmine rose issue.

Of the $12\frac{1}{2}$ we have first grey to slate-grey, then a few distinct olive grey. From 1894 this value shows a greater variety of shades than the others. Bright steel grey passes to irony-grey, 1896) to a dull lilac-grey and 1889) to a pale blue-grey.

1896 ISSUE.

The three stamps of this issue are all on transparent paper, perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$. Scotts mentions perforation $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 11. I found them only compound.

The 50 cents is to be found in the two distinct shades: yellow-green and yellow-brown and blue-green and brown.

The 1g is in chocolate-brown and olive and in purple-brown and olive-green.

THE 1889 ISSUE.

This issue being still current, it is premature to classify its stamps.

Though paper and perforation show up till now no change, they promise a great variety of shades. The 5 cents has already turned from bright and pale carmine to lake-rose, the 10 cents from steel grey to slate and lilac-grey.

POSTMARKS.

It cannot be said that the post marks of the Netherlands are very interesting. The specialist can learn only little through them. They are worth little as a means to find out the probable year of issue or use of a stamp, the earliest of them having still been in use at certain offices many years after the introduction of the round dated postmark in larger

offices.

The first postmark was simply the word "FRANCO" framed or unframed. It was for a short time exclusively used, but 1853 already the letter or the envelope began to be provided with a dated postmark; a frame in the form of about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a circle containing name of the office and date and outside the frame, at the place of the missing section of the circle the word "Franco" (post-paid).

At about the same time appears a strange looking postmark, a kind of cross formed not with squares but with parts of circles, bearing also name and date of the the inside.

Though those two postmarks were intended to be printed on the envelope only many stamps have been cancelled with it.

At the beginning of the 60s, we find a plain name of office, first in a frame, then without frame, used for cancellation whilst by 1870 a new round dated postmark was printed on the envelopes. The latter being used for cancellation of the stamps from 1876.

The next move was a number postmark on the stamps, which has been used by some offices until 1896. I found it with 238 different numbers, from 1 to 256.

1876 began a new era. It was probably found out, that two postmarks were useless; the one on the envelope was suppressed and the above mentioned first round postmark put on the stamps. We find it in three varieties.

1. With a wreath of olive leaves at bottom between the two circles.

2. This wreath is removed inside the inner circle, at its place comes the word "franco".

3. Instead of "franco" comes the hour of posting.

Variety 3 little changed and in smaller size is still in use in all offices which have not received the electric cancelling machine yet.

The railway travelling post offices used two different kinds of stamps, 1. A frame containing a capital letter and a number and 2, an ellipse containing the name of the route, the word "Zug" (train) and its number and also the date.

Many stamps bear two postmarks, probably because the one, which was intended to be on the envelope only, touched some part of the stamp.

The ink of all postmarks is, with few exceptions in blue, of the usual intense black.

Pen cancellations are frequent. As genuinely postally used can only those still on entire be considered. The others must be suspected of having been fiscally used.

Writer is far from it to claim absolute completeness and exactness for his article. He had no official material whatever in hand and has been guided only by his own extensive collection and the copies and entires which have been put at his disposition.

His aim was not chiefly to throw new light on the stamps of Holland but to show what can be found in stamps of almost every country.

He will be extremely pleased to help with counsels any intended specialist and very thankful for and information any reader might have in his possession. Write him c-o The WEST.

Assistant Attorney General Robb in a recent report recommended that no more "specimen" postage stamps be issued.

A Hint To Those Ex- changing Stamps

BY C. GRANDPIERRE

Certainly many stamp collectors will have often found it a tedious business to exchange lots of their common duplicates. The time required to mount them on sheets and even the price of the sheets and of the hinges, though small, renders common exchange little profitable.

I have for years adopted the following system, with which I am perfectly satisfied. I mark the catalogue price of every one of my stamps on the back of them in the manner described below.

Of course the marking of anything on the back of better stamps should not be done on account of the risk to damage them in erasing the marks should it become necessary. But for stamps of a catalogue value of say less than 20c, I prefer to run that risk, as it is worth the saving of time.

Mounting the stamps on sheets has of course a great many advantages which I need not repeat here, but the main disadvantage to send the stamps loose, can easily be remedied.

Many collectors and dealers mark the catalogue or net value on the back of their stamp to avoid the trouble to look in the catalogue on every time the price has to be ascertained. Most of them though, write this price in large figures and put it any way and anywhere. There lays the mistake. I for instance mark the Scott price with well pointed pencil in very small figures in the middle quite at the bottom on the back of the stamp, the Senf prices are marked on the left, the Gibbons prices on the right and the Champion prices just above the Scott prices, always at the bottom of the stamp.

If I have to send a lot of my duplicates on exchange approval, I sort them according to their market value, viz. according to the discount I am willing to allow. So as an example, I have 20 fine copies of really hard to get stamps cataloging say \$3.25, I put them in a transparent envelope marked: "20 stamps, total cat. value \$3.25 at 50 per cent discount. Commoner stamps or speculative issues, as Borneo, unused Central America and such like, catalogued too high, go into another envelope marked in the same manner giving the discount at say 75 per cent. Not quite fine stamps or damaged ones go also in separate envelopes marked at discounts varying from 80 to 95 per cent.

Somebody might object that this system leaves the door open for substitution. I do not think that it does. A fraud will substitute stamps hinged by the best system, I am of opinion, that one ought not to be over suspicious. Fortunately the immense majority of stamp collectors are honest.

Even should a few stamps be substituted, I for my part will rather support that loss than to go to the trouble to mount on sheets lots of commoner stamps.

Only a few years ago the best philatelic library in the United States was purchased for about \$80. Today some stamp collectors have libraries which would cost thousands of dollars. Save all the stamp papers you receive and keep them for reference. Save all your catalogues from year to year and keep them on file. Get a scrap book and cut out of papers everything of interest to a stamp collector, and you will soon have a library worth almost as much as your stamp collection.

The Stamp Dealer years ago or less that we can retail
FROM A SENTIMENTAL STANDPOINT at, say, fifty cents each today.
BY F. HAMMOND

Probably the greatest of Persian poets, and certainly the one most widely known in the United States, Omar Khayyam, who, perhaps, loved the flowing bowl not wisely but too well, has the following to say regarding wine, according to Edward Fitzgerald, his justly famous translator.

"And much as wine has played the infidel.

And robb'd me of my robe of Honour
—Well,

I wonder often what the Vintners buy

One half so precious as the stuff they sell."

Perhaps at first thought it may seem a far call from wine to postage stamps, yet these lines of the old poet are often called to mind when I am called upon to part with a fine stamp, and I doubt, for the moment, whether or not a person gets any lasting satisfaction from dealing in stamps, he so regrets seeing his treasures go from him, even at a profit. But none more mature thought a person remembers that, as the old saying hath it, "Three are just as good fish in the sea as have ever been pulled out," and that in place of the stamp parted with today there will, perchance, come a rarer, still more interesting specimen tomorrow, next week, or next month.

And perhaps a person remembers that if he were not a dealer he could not have afforded to have such a rare stamp in his possession even temporarily. Then, too, he recalls the wealth of fine copies of cheaper stamps he owns—beautiful copies, many of them, that cost him, perhaps, ten cents each at wholesale ten

Perhaps, too, he is able to recall with gratitude that he makes little profit, although probably only a little, from the sale of stamp hinges, blank approval books and sheets and common stamps worth but one cent each or less, the parting from which causes no regret.

It must be confessed that the dealer is the exception who cannot recall a great many disappointments in the course of his experience in the stamp business, but on the other hand there are not a few advertisements that "pulled" more replies than were expected, quite a few rarities have probably been sold at high prices and perhaps a few good stamps—or possibly more than a few, besides many more common ones—have been found in some out of the way garret or cellar, at no cost whatever.

And as this article is admittedly written from a sentimental standpoint, I may say that very often a dealer, in the course of business transactions originally, has started a correspondence with persons at first strangers and possible customers, become to be considered personal friends and whose correspondence is valued far beyond the small profit it yields.

Everyone knows the black side of any business; it is not necessary to recall that side of the question, but let us remember the bright side now and then.

The revenue stamps of Guatemala, surcharged with the word "Correos" (postage) are, when thus treated, postage stamps. The same stamp not surcharged is a revenue and nothing more, as revenue stamps in that country are not good for postage.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS

We are pleased to present in this issue the likeness of Mr. W. A. Imbler of Los Angeles. This gentleman was born in Missouri some 24 years ago, but has known Southern California as his home for fifteen years. In a general way he began collecting stamps several years ago and with in the last year has discontinued the foreign, confining himself to United States and Colonies. Of these his collection will number over 1000 varieties no envelopes and not including his very large and valuable collection of the 1898 precancelled proprietaries and match and medicine. While collecting stamps souvenir post cards have not escaped his attention. He carries a very large and choice assortment of California views for his exchanges and mail order trade.

Mr. Imbler is an accountant of rare ability and an able instructor in commercial branches. For several years he has been head bookkeeper and cashier for the Los Angeles Transfer Co., and has many ardent friends among the readers of the WEST who will be pained to learn that poor health has compelled him to resign his position to take an extended rest. We sincerely hope that of all other things our worthy friend may regain his health first.

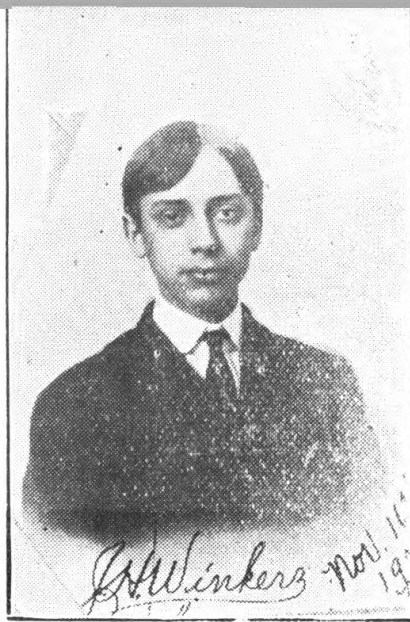
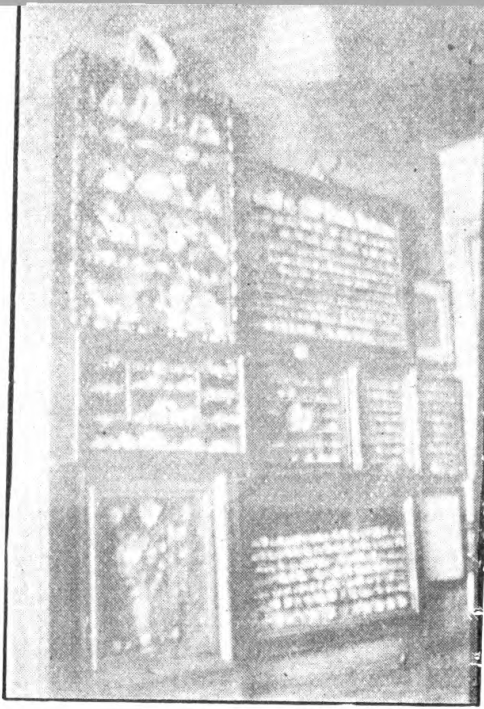
(Our readers will find Mr. Imbler's ad in this and coming issues of the WEST. You will find him worthy of your patronage and we are confident that his goods will draw many an order from the readers. His postal cards are the finest of the kind seen.)

Gee. Hickey of Adelaide, South Australia, was born in 1874; started collecting Manchester, Eng., 1882,

educated at Choelton High School. School chum of P. L. Pemberton now prominent dealer of London whose father late E. L. Pemberton is known as "Father of Philately". With Pemb joined Manchester Phil Soc., 1893. In January '94 read paper on stamps of Holland Man. Soc. First to note types of Holland 1867 issue (see London Phil May 98 page 150). Arrived at Adelaide in search of health July '94, member South Australia and Victoria Philatelic Societies. Specialist stamps of South Australia. Author of articles on S. A. stamps now appearing in Australian Philatelist. Hope to see some of his articles in the WEST.

F. A. Mueller was born in Germany 24 years ago, Shortly after his birth his parents moved to this country and settled near Aurora, Nebr., later moving to Peake. Mr. Mueller is a graduate of both the English and German School. He became interested in stamp collecting in 1899 and now has a collection of about 4000 stamps. He is also one of the founders of the Metropolitan Philatelic Ass'n and has been Secretary of said Association ever since its organization and has also been re-elected. Also being a member of other Philatelic Societies. Mr. Mueller is a pleasant young fellow and makes friends wherever he goes. He is serving his second term as deputy P. M. in his home town.

J. H. Winkers has been connected ducting a stamp business for nearly two years, jointly with others and by himself. Has been saving stamps for about six years and has between 2,500 and 3,000 different. His collection is not very valuable but prized very highly by him. In reference to



Some Shells of McCoy of Chicago



W. Straley, Comanche, Texas



J. T. Bartlett, Rock Island, Ill



Frederic C. Traub



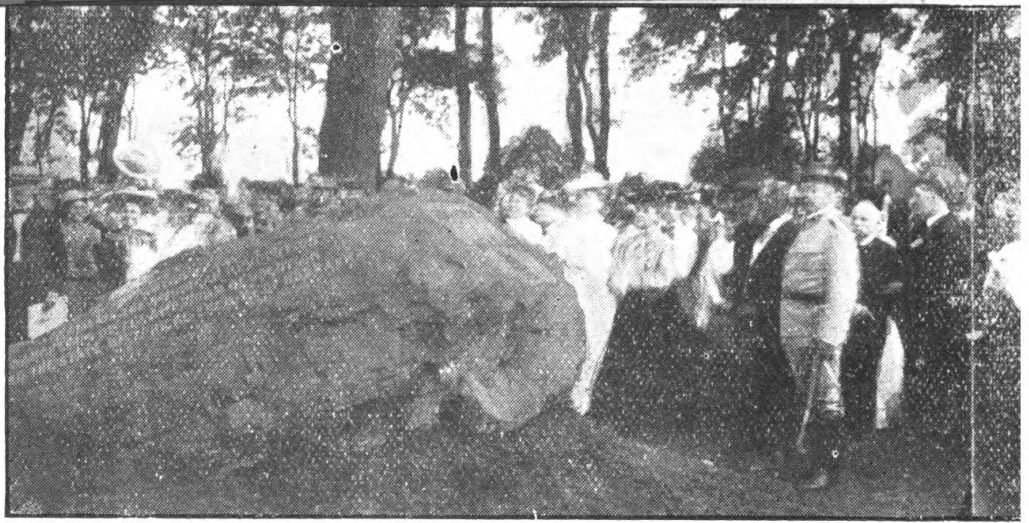
F. A. Miller, Secy. M. P. A., Peake, Nebr.



J. T. Hamel, Banker, Roberval, Canada

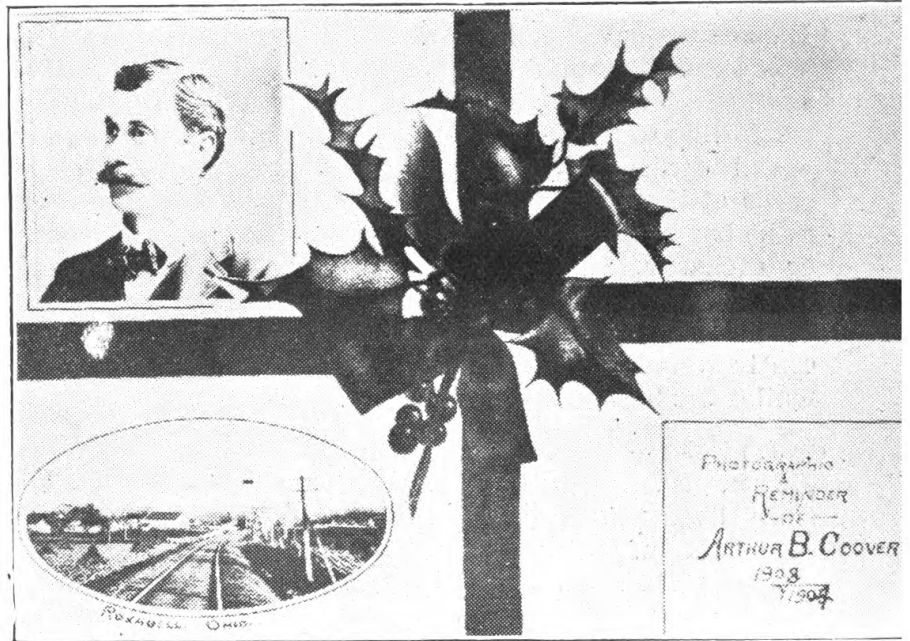


Original from
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



Laying a Nebraska Historical Monument

W. A. Imbler, Los Angeles, Calif.



John F. Traub



Semper Fidelis Souvenir Post Card Club, Chicago



his stamp business he does quite a nice business and send our stamps on approval at 50 per cent commission. He is both exporter, importer and wholesale and retail.

Fredrick Charles Traub was born in Peoria, Ill., in 1885 but has been living in the Hawkeye state for the last ten years. Recently he has been attending college in St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. Traub is a collector of photos, stamps, etc., is always glad to hear from collectors all over the world. His address is Elma, Ia.

John F. Traub of Elma, Ia., is a new one in philatelic circles and would like to hear from collectors of postal cards (old, used and unused cards of U. S. and foreign countries) as he has numerous duplicates to sell or exchange. Mr. John F. Traub was formerly engaged in the drug business in Des Moines but has recently voted his entire time to the mail order business.

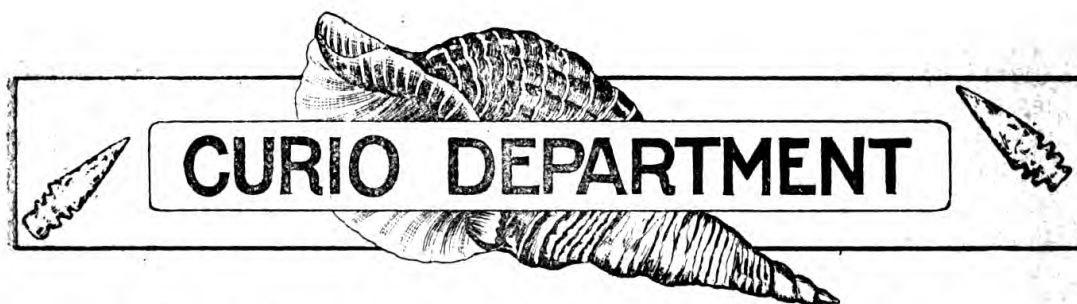
J. Delano Bartlett was born in Macon, Ill., Nov. 17, 1869 but has since lived in over half of the states of the Union. He began collecting stamps while in St. Louis in 1884 and has been at it steadily ever since, although he has sold his collection several times. His collection numbers about 12,000 varieties and is especially good in all branches of U. S. For the past few years he has been giving special attention to U. S. revenues, Lock Seals, and Tax paid stamps. He considers his stamp home Springfield, Mass., where he has been very actively connected with the Springfield Stamp Club. He now resides at Rock Island, Ill, being called there last August on the death of his mother. He is a member of the American Philatelic Association Boston Philatelic Society and the

Springfield Stamp Club. Was president for two terms of the Sons of Philatelia. He has an article in the WEST on Revenue Stamps. Hope to see more from him later.

W. Straley was born in 1877, in Miame Co., Kansas. Came to Comanche, Texas, with his parents in 1882, where he has resided ever since except two years. At a very early age he showed remarkable talent for drawing. Mr. Straley's first occupation was that of printer's devil and is at present foreman of the "Comanche Chief", the oldest newspaper in West Texas. He has never attended any art schools, but has accomplished everything at home with no resources save his own ambition and genius. He is a collector of pen and ink drawn post cards. This month's cover design is from the pen of Mr. Straley. Hope to use more of his work.

Next number has illustration of largest Chicago Ladies Collectors Club, Leading Philatelic publisher of France, many curio cvts, etc.

A reply often made by dealers when urged to advertise is that he has all the business his present facilities can care for and he is not yet ready to increase; consequently it would be useless expenditure to advertise for business which he could not handle. There isn't much to say when one meets this argument. For that reason, possibly it is used too often. The fact of it is, you seldom believe that kind of talk, and you can't tell a man so. There are very few dealers but what could take care of a little more business if they had it, and who would not be willing to go after it if they saw any hanging around.



BY ROY FARREL GREENE, A S o f C C

The Bath Furnace Meteorite, dead being wrapped in blankets and weighing 184 pounds, which has been deposited on high scaffolds. There was a time when the Crows buried their dead with their weapons and trinkets which they had owned during life, but when the craze for elk teeth arose the Indians climbed those scaffolds, unwrapped the bodies and secured the elk teeth which they sold at good prices. No more teeth are buried with the dead now. Mr. Porter tells of how the Crow Indians are tearing down and dismantling the buildings of the old Fort. Fort Custer was abandoned by the government in 1898, and Mr. Porter says the Indians are tearing down the old "officers quarters" and the buildings in general to construct teepees for themselves. Just without the confines of the old fort is still to be seen the old stage coach which used to make the long trip from Cheyenne 500 miles away. The stage is in a dilapidated condition, but it will be removed to the agency and preserved as a memento of the pioneer days.

T. R. Porter, special correspondent of the Omaha World-Herald, writing to his paper from Crow Indian Agency, Montana, tells of the great change that is being worked as the years go by among the Crows on their reservation. He says that a mile above old Fort Custer the Indians have started one of their "above ground" cemeteries, the

Many members of the Curio collectors society visited the St. Louis Exposition this year, and there isn't a doubt but that everyone of them felt that he had received his money's worth in the seeing of curios. Perhaps he did, but there was a reason for regret also, and that because the historical documents, furniture, and everything of that sort, was not ga-

thered together in one room, or at least under one roof. Every one of the big buildings contained historical curios, nearly all of the State buildings, while way out on the Pike, in Battle Abbey, were housed some of the most interesting relics of all. Wouldn't it have been better to have had them altogether? That is to say, all the documents together, all the furniture together, and so on. How many of the collectors who visited the big fair saw all the curios?

In the Department of State section of the government building one could gaze on the Declaration of Independence, and right by the side of it the treaty by which Napoleon ceded Louisiana Territory to the United States, as well as the correspondence leading to it. The actual desk on which Jefferson wrote the document was there. The library of Congress exhibit showed us the diary of James Monroe, written during the Louisiana negotiations and giving the details of his interviews with Napoleon I and others on the subject. The "Letter of Credence" from President Jefferson to the "Citizen First Consul of France" introducing James Monroe as plenipotentiary of the United States was there. In the State department exhibit were the documents by which President Monroe promulgated the famous "Doctrine" bearing his name. Many autographs of Washington, Jefferson, Madison Monroe, and others were there, as well as the original of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Lincoln, and proclamations signed by every president from Washington to Roosevelt. All in all, the St. Louis Exposition was a great place for curio collectors to interest themselves, but how many saw all these things?

Henry C. Bridges, a native of Salem, but now a resident of Bristol, R. I., lately presented to the Peabody Academy of Science at Peabody, Mass. the most valuable collection of porcelain in New England. It comprised nearly one hundred articles of Chinese and Japanese ware, of which thirty-four were of ancient Chinese porcelain, some of the vases being of rare beauty and great value. The remainder of the collection comprised Japanese porcelain, pottery and lacquer work. The collection was placed in cases in the Academy's Oriental department.

Two melancholy souvenirs of the death of Charles I of England were up for sale last month in London at an auction room, and attracted a large crowd of collectors and spirited bidding. They were a gold toothpick and case used by the monarch on the scaffold, and the mementos were once the property of Col. Tomlinson, who was the officer in charge of the king from the time of his imprisonment in the tower until the end, and were presented to him at the last scene in Whitehall by Charles I, as all he had left, for his civilities. When the relics were submitted an opening bid of \$50 was made, and by slow advances \$500 was reached. At this stage no one could have anticipated the result, and at \$925 it appeared that interest had ceased. But suddenly the bidding took a new life, and Messrs Renton and Partridge made a duel of it. The latter carried the contest to \$2,875, and did not challenge Mr. Renton's bid of \$2,900, for which amount the two relics were sold.

In an article on the extraordinary vitality of certain seeds a learned writer recently remarked that the most unscientific observer has noticed how often plants appear in old

ground which has been trenched which have never appeared in such spots previously, and that after fires pass over localities plants equally strange to the neighborhood appear. After the great London fire in 1666 the yellow rocket appeared in great profusion for the first time, in the district swept by the fire. A scientist has recently discovered that an extensive tract of land at the silver mines of Laurium, in Greece, is covered by a luxuriant growth of horned poppies belonging to a hitherto unknown species. These plants have shot up through the soil which has been covered to the depth of ten feet with the masses of cinder and slag thrown out by the workmen in ancient times when the mines were worked by the Greeks, and which have recently been disturbed in order that the imperfectly fused materials might be subjected to further process of fusion for the purpose of extracting their silver contents.

Professor Henry F. Osborn, of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, directed three expeditions this summer into the West, and when he returned to New York the fore part of November he took with him two car loads of skeletons of many animals heretofore undiscovered, besides complete skeletons of monsters of which there were in the world's museums previously only fragments. A cave in New Mexico yielded to Osborn and his party thousands of complete and fragmentary skeletons of a whole menagerie of extinct animals. Mr. Osborn has made a very complete report of the fossils found in the Fort Bridger region, Wyoming by the expedition under charge of Doctor W. D. Matthew and Mr. Walter Granger yet directed by Prof. Osborn. The report is too

long, and quite too technical to be given here. Mr. Barnum Brown was in charge of the reptilian search and he found many splendid specimens in the Fort Pierre shales near Edgemont So. Dak. In beds near the Judith river in Montana other splendid skeletons were found. The party continued down into Arkansas and there, in a crevasse in a cavern of the pleistocene age were found ten complete and many fragmentary skulls of rodents and carnivores, representing nearly forty species of animals. The expeditions were very successful and the American Museum of Natural History will be greatly benefitted by the finds

Most varieties of sea anemones attach to rocks or spiles or other hard substances, but there are some that make their home in sand, in which they can bury themselves completely, or above the surface of which they can as readily rise. Such sea anemones are found at some places along the Long Island shore of the Sound. Extended these sea anemones may be seven or eight inches in length, or more; collapsed they settle down so that their tentacled upper disk is flush with the surface of sand or mud in which they bury themselves, or it may be drawn down a little below it, making a little depression, a veritable trap for any small living creature that might chance to wander that way. For its own protection, this sea anemone can settle down into its hole further still, so that the sand will tumble in or wash over it. A fisherman who was telling of this sea anemone's characteristics said: "It comes the nearest to being able to crawl into its hole and pull the hole in after it of anything I know of."

Carte Mobile Trip Around The World.

M . K E L L E R

[Continued from last number]

Various cards show the beautiful narrow valley as it lies between steep granite mountains which are accessible, and here and there nice spots of ground are laid out for visitors. It has many warm springs, some 10[°] or more in number which have been discovered by Emperor Charles IV to whom a statue has been erected as seen on one card. Carlsbad is situated beautifully in a narrow valley between steep granite mountains. Of the ten springs the Sprudel, Hygiea, Bernhardt, Neubrunnen, and Schlossbrunnen are the most important. Various other towns from Bohemia of less importance are all represented on the picture post cards. Among them are Leipa, Freiwaldau Dorfteschen, Koenigswert, and Hohenelbe. This last is a fine spot in the Northeastern part situated on the Elbe, near Prague. On one card we see the castle as it looms up near the Elbe which reflects it like a mirror. There are many pretty and numerous views from all the fine spots throughout this country. From Kufstein are seen several views. This lies on the boundary between Austria and Bavaria on the Inn. It is an ancient fortress. One view shows an interior view of a medieval German inn room at the Auchacher Inn Kufstein showing the old tile stoves, latticed windows with broad seats, paneled ceiling and general medieval appearance. Having arrived in Prague the capital of B. we notice its picturesque scenery at once. It lies on both banks of the Moldau at the only point where the valley of the Moldau expands sufficiently to make room for a great city.

Its masses of buildings and many spires and towers filling the valley and climbing the hills on either side, gives a fine effect. The two sides of the river connected by seven bridges, those seen in our trip are Kaiser Franz, the new Palacky and the fine old Carks bridge. This last is closed at each end by a medieval gate tower. The numerous buttresses are adorned with statues of Saints. One part of the city is called the Altstadt. Most of the streets seen here are narrow and irregular. It has a spacious square called the "Grosser Ring," and the side next the Moldau is bordered by wide quays, embellished with fine monuments of Charles IV and Francis I. Near the Ring is also seen the old Town house that witnessed so many of the stormy scenes of Bohemian history. Another interesting structure is the Late Gothic Pulverthurm, a relic of the old wall that once separated the Altstadt from the Neustadt. The original fortress was almost modern. The palace seen is the Palace Walnstein.

Prague is unusually well supplied with public parks and gardens on the slopes of the Laurenzergand on part of the ground occupied by the old fortifications. Teplitz appears on our next cards having many fine views, being one of the most frequent watering places in the plain of the Biela. The environs are laid out in pretty and shady gardens and promenades. The finest of these is the park surrounding the chateau of Prince Clary. There is a large Curhouse and many bathing houses in both Teplitz and the closely adjoined village of Schoenau. The various streets are the Meissnerstr, Unter market, the Stephansplatz, Raihoay Str. This last shows a large street parade of some kind. Another view shows the Seumedenkmal or monu-

ment and park on various panorama views we can plainly see the grand Jewish Synagogue with its conspicuous dome and the Bymnasium as well as many fine churches. The Schlossteich is one of the finest water sceneries in the vicinity. The Schlossberg is also very fine from where beams the grand old castle, Schlossberg. Other romantic sceneries are those from Groupen and Schlossberg and Bosenburg, Schoenau is a pretty village which has many springs. The Thermal Springs are fabled to have been discovered as early as 762. The city's fame is derived from Slavonic word which means warm bath."

Having now reached Lower Austria we find ourselves in the grand old city of Vienna. It can not really be termed old since of all the strictly modern cities of the world Vienna is chief among them. It may well be termed queen of Austria in cities. Located on a branch of the Danube with mountains all around it, and containing the residence of the Emperor, and other wealthy ancestry whose wealthy mansions grace this attractive city. Among the most beautiful churches seen are the St. Stephen church, which contains the Imperial vaults. The Votive church is perhaps one of the grandest of pure Gothic style. It was erected in memory of the Emperor's escape from assassination in 1835. It is adorned with 78 stained glass windows. Further we come to the Ring street, the main Boulevard of the city and so named because it circles the city like a ring. Next we see the historical museum, Rathhaus, city hall, The Royal Theater, House of Parliament which were designed in Greek style. Next comes the Maria thresa square and monument 43 feet in height, erected in 1888 representing her as she appeared at the age of thirty-five.

Next we find ourselves in the Hofburg or Imperial palace. This is an irregular conglomeration of buildings erected in various styles since the 13th. century. The adjoining Court Chapel in Gothic style dates from 1449. The old gateway of the Swiss court dates from the 16th century, which has been restored. The Leopold wing forms the old residence containing the magnificent Rittersall. The colossal statue of the Emperor Francis I is also shown. The Hofburg is surrounded on one side by the Kaiser garden and, the Volksgarten the latter containing the temple of Theseus, a copy of the original at Athens. Two other cards show the tomb of Maria Christina, which is said to be the finest marble, and the magnificent church built on the Rings street on the site of the theater in memory of the 800 lives lost in 1881 by its awful fire. One card shows the main pleasure resort, the Prater, with its giant wheel, the Prater is a noted public park on an island formed by the Danube, and its canal. It was dedicated by the emperor Joseph II. It contains club houses, hotels, theatres, villas, etc. From the Hofburg we see many fine views showing the imperial palace, the opera house the museum, the palace gardens and park. A panorama view shows the whole imperial buildings, a huge complex of buildings of various forms and of various epochs and in various styles. Opposite the Hofburg rise the fine monuments of the Empress Maria Theresa, beyond the house of Parliament we see the New in rathaus a n immense building lavishly decorated with Gothic towers erected in 1873-83. The central tower and the tapering steeple of the rathaus are surmounted by a colossal bronze figure of a knight.

(To be continued.)

Indian Relic Hunting

By F E HALBERT

A good many people would like to collect Indian relics, but have not the money with which to purchase the same. Such persons if given the knowledge where to search will soon accumulate a respectable showing, depending on their enthusiasm and their location. If one does not know where to search, they are as apt to make a failure of it as I did. I searched at odd times some years ago and all I found was a small flint knife. Later, on removing to a different part of the country and forming the acquaintance of a successful collector, I soon learned many points about collecting and the Indian customs of different tribes and how to recognize them in the relics. On my return to my old home a few months later, my walks afield were rewarded on every trip with something to add to the start I had made while away from home. I have paid as high as a dollar for an extra fine arrow point but the possession of it did not bring one half the real pleasure and satisfaction of finding one that would not bring more than twenty five cents.

An old camping spot, especially if near a good spring will pay going over every little while because rains, etc., will bring them to the surface if they happen to be just out of sight the first time you look. A good many will say, "I don't believe that there is anything to be found near here." Now do not believe that there is any section of country where there is a stream that was deep enough to float a canoe that will not yield up a few relics.

As the Indian travelled mainly by canoes, and obtained a good deal of his living by fishing he made his camp close to the shore of lake or stream.

Near tide water he made his camp in most any sheltered spot within a mile or two. Generally, there was not far away, a spring of running water. He invariably chose the sunny side of the stream or lake where there was any choice. You are almost certain to find something on a bit of high land at the bend of a river, if the land is not too steep and rocky. At the fork of a river is sure to be a camp site. Learn all you can about the Indians that once inhabited your section, for this will give you an idea of their ceremonial objects which you might otherwise pass by. Once when I was out strolling about in company with my collector friend previously mentioned. I picked up, examined and then cast away, a small stone. A few minutes later my friend says, "here's something" holding up the same stone that I had discarded. In answer to my inquiry he said that it was a hand mallet. He pointed out evidences of its having also been used as a pestle.

Beginners are apt to look for certain colors in flint and thus pass by good specimens.

Don't have any particular color in mind; but with a light walking stick turn over every stone whose shape is at all peculiar. This will save time and also your back in looking over the ground.

If you find a location that looks favorable dig a little, that is, if you have the permission of the owner of the land. If you do not know who the owner is, dig anyhow; unless you see a man with a shot gun coming your way; or perhaps a healthy bulldog. In either event discretion should be your guide to the nearest highway. The writer once dug up a fine specimens in a space of about five square feet. The place was at the top of a rocky point about 15 or

20 feet above tide water. There was also a couple of half finished arrow points, judging by that, one would think that this was not a temporary camp site. My companion also found an excellent gauge, such as were used in digging out canoes. It was such laborious digging, however, that we were obliged to abandon the place.

The first evidence to lookout for in searching for relics is a quantity of small thin sharp edged pieces of flint or other stone. Almost invariably these are chips broken off in making implements, etc. I once counted 40 of these chips lying on the surface in a space about 10 feet square. In some sections of the country most of the arrow-points will be of a milky whiteness, in other regions black will be the predominating color. I have seen fair sized specimens that were made so carefully from such clear rock that one could read ordinary print through them. In Pennsylvania, we saw a collection in which a majority were, of a red color.

Arrow and spear heads are often found sometimes as far as a thousand miles from the place where nature placed the material from which they were made. A friend of ours once picked up in Pennsylvania, a fine spear-point made of a certain kind of rock which is native only to S. Carolina. Others have been found in Massachusetts that must have originally come from Wisconsin.

Look over your collection and see how many of your arrow points have edges that curve to the right when viewed from the shaft end. Most of them will curve to the left if at all. These curves pretty nearly correspond to the rifling of a gun barrel. The right curving ones are supposed to have been made by Indians who were left-handed.

After the Indians became ac-

quainted with the white man, he largely made his arrow points of iron. Narrow hoop iron being the most easily converted into knives arrow-points and small spears.

In the fall after crops are harvested is the best time to search for relics.

ROMNEY "FIND" BRINGS \$25000.00.

Though the majority of the reported finds of marvelous pictures by great masters turn out to be based merely on the fanciful imaginings of would-be treasure hunters, such discoveries are still made from time to time, and at least one authentic case has occurred within the last few days.

Messrs Hampton and Sons' expert, when valuing the contents of a country house for insurance purposes, came across a portrait in which he immediately recognized the brush of Romney. It appears that the picture had been in the possession of the family for many years, but had been held in slight esteem, as nobody ever suspected its importance or associated Romney's name with it.

At a sale in London the picture was sold to a private collector for an amount somewhere near \$25,000.00.

\$500 BIBLES.

Four lots at the resumed sale of the Carfield bindings in London realized over \$500 each. A seventeenth century Bible in embroidered binding brought \$655. Another Bible in a morocco case, the work of the famous binder, Samuel Hearne, went for \$520.

A fifteenth century illuminated French manuscript was knocked down for \$560.

Fossil Thought

ESTELLA BACHMAN BROKAW

Many and varied are the things we members of the A. S. of C. C. collect. A careful study of our last Year Book and of each number of the WEST as it came to hand has, however, failed to show me any other member hunting along the particular lines I have had occasion to follow for some time back. Maybe there are such members and this will find them. Then we will rejoice together and immediately begin an exchange of fossils from our abundant stores.

Fossils there are and yet other fossils. How many members of the A. S. of C. C. have dug out the rich treasures in the fossil beds of thought? These fossil beds have various names; as mythology, folk lore, tradition, ancient religious books, etc., and the fossil thoughts buried up in these beds throw a wondrous light upon the things we collect. The fossils in the rocks take on a new and vivid interest; we find the original patterns for our arrow points and spears; we look almost with awe at the wonderful form and beauty of the crystals in our collection: all natural science, and relics of every kind, historic and prehistoric, mean more to us than they ever did before. Yes, this is a hunt worth the effort, even though the most difficult part of the task is to unlearn some things we supposed we thoroughly understood. Like Professor Vail, I hold that truth can not grow among men who do not learn how to unlearn, and honestly put opinion beneath them." Perhaps we may even have to give up a pet prejudice or two, but the result of the search is such an immense compensation for all such loss that we cannot fail to be more than glad we let them go.

My attention was first called to this line of research through my interest in geology and geological problems. What caused the geologic ages? Whence came the snow that made the great ice age?" Where did the water come from that caused the floods vast beyond conception," as Dana calls them? Why are mountain ranges so uniformly in line with the largest oceans or seas bordering the great continent? How could a tropical or semi-tropical world turn suddenly into a world of snow and ice? One day there is a land of tropical or semi-tropical bloom and luxuriance and the next the world is clothed in winter's chill: one day great herds of enormous creatures are luxuriating in verdant pastures even under the arctic circle., the next there is a vast desolation and the earth is but a grave yard for the mighty dead. And the change came suddenly, we know, for some of these creatures have been found well preserved, some with undigested food still in their stomachs and one even with a bunch of grapes still in his mouth. When studying fossils, how many of us have thought of the fact that fishes, lizards, serpents and frogs, as well as mammals, could not have been bodily fossilized if they had not been quickly covered up in rapidly forming strata? Only such rapid forming strata could bury the dead and give the organism a chance to fossilize. How was it possible for vegetation to make coal in the shape we find it? Subsidence and emergence of land to just the right spot to too absurd an explanation to when we remember that it must have occurred forty times in eastern Pennsylvania, seventy-two in Nova Scotia and one hundred and ten in Britain to accommodate the known coal beds. And even if that had

been possible how could it account or coal found in actual ice and snow in Alaska? Why were creatures of the old epochs so often gigantic compared with the modern wild things?

There seemed no end to these questions and yet the key that opens the door to a correct answer to all of them was offered to the world more than twenty-five years ago by Isaac Newton Vail, Professor of Geology, in a little pamphlet on "The Waters Above the Firmament, or the Deluge and Its Cause." In his search for a source of waters competent to cause the Noachian deluge Professor Vail discovered that the earth once had an annular system; that in Jupiter and Saturn today we see world conditions through which our own earth has passed. The years of study and research that Professor Vail has since given to this subject have resulted in the accumulation of such an overwhelming mass of evidence as to prove his discovery true beyond the shadow of a doubt.

All geologists and physicists agree that this planet was once a molten sphere. While in that state every particle of matter in it that could be vaporized or sublimed by the inveterate heat was sent aloft and kept there while the heat lasted. It could not stay there without rotating the earth and so, obeying known mechanical laws, it was thrown into belts or rings about the equator, and in time revolved independently around the earth. In obedience to mechanical and chemical laws this vast mass of aqueous, mineral and metallic matter sorted itself in the rings, the heavier and less easily vaporized of the minerals and metals forming the innermost ring—and so on to the outermost ring, which must have been the most watery of all. In time the inner-

most ring descended into the atmosphere of the cooling globe and, as mathematically demonstrated, must have spread out toward the poles in its efforts to reach the earth. It thus formed a canopy over the earth, and this canopy made a green house while it lasted. This canopy must finally have broken at the equator and revolved toward the poles to fall at last mainly as snows about the arctic and antarctic circles, where centrifugal force ends and gravity has full sway. What one ring did all had to do. As each came down it added its water and mineral and metallic matter to the growing earth. The rings formed the "ages." The wreck of rings built up earth's strata. Had there been no annular system there could have been but one geological "age." Thus, as canopies formed and fell, warm and cold ages succeeded each other till the last and highest earth ring descended into our atmosphere, and for thousands of years was the all-conspicuous and adored heaven of primitive people—to change in its fall from a protector to a demon of destruction. This was the beginning of mythology and the source of all religions.

To illustrate the results I can only touch on a point or two. Last spring when the Federation of Women's Clubs had their great biennial at Los Angeles, the citizens got up a festival of flowers—La Fiesta—and had one of the beautiful parades for which this section is deservedly famous. One of the most conspicuous things in the parade was the long and gorgeous Chinese Dragon which was baited along the streets by two golden balls carried before it, but ever out of reach.

(Continued next month).

The Mound Builders,--- Who Were They?

By CLAUDE HOPE

Who were the mound builders? The prehistoric mounds of the United States have long been a subject of speculation, and even at this period, after years of investigation by the Bureau of Ethnology, we are confronted with arguments so full of romance and imagination, that it would seem the subject would never meet its final solution, before the public. The proposition that the mound builders were an ancient and more enlightened people than the Indians was too good history, and from being resold, has lost none of its positiveness among those who have made no special inquiry into the subject. In ethnology, as in law, a well told tale has often defeated the truth, but the recent reports from the pen of Major Powell has made it comparatively certain that the mystery has at last been solved.

During recent years more than 2,000 mounds have been explored, from which 40,000 specimens have been collected; 15,000 of which are of pottery and are regarded the most important part of the collection from an archaeological view. It is believed this collection will be found to contain most, if not all, hitherto known types of textile impressions, and some that are unusual.

The history of each being known and its genuineness unquestioned, the collection will be of great value to antiquarians. The pottery of the mound builders has often been referred to as proof of a high culture status, and an advance in art beyond that attained by the Indians. It appears probable that some writers have been led to this conclusion by

an examination of the figures, drawings and photographs without a personal inspection of the articles themselves. That the mound pottery is comparatively rude and primitive in type, manufacture, and material must be admitted. It is true however that specimens are frequently found which give evidence of considerable skill and advance in art as compared with the pottery of other barbarous people, but there is nothing to remind us of the better ware of Peru, Mexico and Central America, and as far as expert examination extends not a single piece is equal in character to some of the old Pueblo pottery.

That the mound builders were in respect of tribal relations similar to the Indian of the Columbus period cannot be doubted. The funeral rite of the mound builder was conducted with regard to the social position, and occupation of the individual. There is every reason to believe that the custom prevailed of removing the flesh before burial and that the religious ceremonies of the tribes were not unfrequently conducted with some display in which fire played a part. It now seems certain that the people of whom we speak as mound builders were simply Indians, who at some time may have cultivated our fields and trudged along in the wake of civilization and cycle of which no historian has ever written.

It is difficult to exaggerate the prevalence of a romantic fallacy which has taken possession of the imaginary of men, regarding the "lost races," says Major Powell in this report. For more than a century the ghosts of a vanished nation have ambuscaded in the vast solitudes of the continent and the forest covered mounds have been usually regarded as the mysterious sepulchres of its kings

and nobles. It was an alluring conjecture that a powerful people, superior to the Indians, once occupied the valley of the Ohio and the Appalachian ranges, their empire stretching from Hudson Bay to the Gulf, with its flanks on the western prairies and the eastern ocean; a people with a confederated government, a chief ruler, a great central capital, a highly developed religion, with homes and husbandry and advanced textile, fictile, and ductile arts, with a language perhaps with letters, all swept away before an invasion of copper hewed Huns from some unknown region of the earth, prior to the landing of Columbus. The hypothetic semi-civilized autochthons, imagined to have been thus rudely exterminated or expelled have been variously identified by ethnologists with the ancestors of the Aztecs or the Toltecs, the Mayas, the Colhuas, the Chichimecs, or the Pueblos, who have left no sign of their existence save rude and feeble fortifications into which they fled from their foes, and the silent and obscure elevations in which their nobles found interment. Only one hundred years have passed since scientific men became fully aware of these remarkable antiquities. They were first discussed by Dr. Franklin, Jefferson, Noah Webster and their contemporaries who advanced various theories to account for the origin of the mounds. Dr. Franklin and Webster were inclined to attribute to DeSoto and other Spanish explorers the few that had been found and described, but Webster afterward abandoned this theory and ascribed the mounds to the Indians. The assumption that the mounds scattered irregularly over the face of this country from Florida to the Red River of the North, were the work of a lost and nameless race, and that the deposits of Indian remains within them were the result of intrusion burials has been losing ground before recent evidence accumulated by archaeologists. The spade, and pick in the hands of patient and sagacious investigators, have every year brought to light facts tending more and more strongly to prove that the mounds defensive, mortuary, and domiciliary, which have excited so much curiosity and become the subject of so many hypotheses, were constructed by the historic Indians of our land and their lineal ancestors. We may venture to suggest that the facts thus far collected point to a connection more or less intimate between the race of the mounds and the semi-civilized nations which formerly had their seats among the Sierras of Mexico, upon the plains of Central America, and Peru, and, who erected the imposing structures which from their number, vastness, and mysterious significance, invest the central portion of the continent with an interest not less absorbing than that which attaches to the valley of the Nile. To illustrate the fallacy with which this subject is surrounded we quote from a recent issue of the Chicago Daily News: "The Mound Builders of our western states migrated to this country earlier than the savage Indian hordes which some seek to indentify with the Tartar of Asia. One mound which was opened contained 60,000 pearls. One striking feature which proves that the Mound-Builders were of Asiatic origin is that a mound in Wisconsin is shaped like an elephant and that a pipe found in Iowa was ornamented by the same figure." The Asiatic elephant has peculiar enamel on his molar tooth. Perhaps this was defined in the effigy mound above referred to.

Something About Wood Carvings.

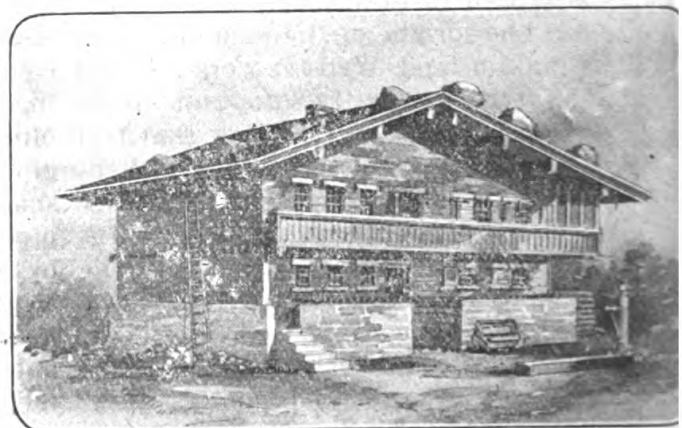
BY C. GRANDPIERRE

A very interesting branch of curio collecting, though comparatively expensive, is that of carvings in wood, ivory and other materials. The Chinese have attained considerable skill in both, whilst the indoors though also skillful in the carving of ivory, are better renowned as wood carvers, not one house of a well to do Hindoo being without beautifully carved doors, ceilings, etc. The old Mexicans were also wood carvers and many of their works were shown at the anthropological exhibit at the World's fair. Even the Alaskan Indians have their "totem" poles. The hairy Ainus, said to be the original Japanese race, are not the less skilful in those lines, though concentrating their skill to objects of every day use. Amongst modern civilized races, the Italians deserve the palm for marble carvings or sculptures. The Boer prisoners of war spent their time carving roughly many "souvenirs" which though without value reached high prices as curios.

The master wood carvers of the world are certainly the Tyrolese and the Swiss. The Swiss wood carving particularly has been, in the last few years, the subject of quite an evolution. They are not more, merely souvenirs of the work of hardy mountaniers, but, through technical education and natural artistic taste, real pieces of art, having so to say intrinsic value. Thanks to the kindness of Ed Binder & Co., of Brienz (Switzerland) we are able to reproduce some of the work they have exhibited at their "Swiss Chatlet" at the World's fair. The first illustration shows a typical Swiss Alpine building of the Bernese Oberland, where many

men and women spend the winter months carving wood under the direction of special teachers and of representatives of firms which bring the manufactured articles on the market.

Another illustration of more allegorical nature is "The three generations."



The Art of Finding Fossils

F. MAY TUGGLE, A S C C 102

One of our talented lady members wrote me the other day asking how I went to work to find such rich stones of fossils. She thought it must be my especially good fortune and as it would make too long a letter to answer her query and as others might be benefited by my experiences I told her I would answer her in the columns of the WEST.

There are only two essentials necessary i. e. 1st. keep your eyes open and secondly, make good use of authorized text books and geological reports. The second point in the foregoing sentence as the first that I used. When a mere child I found a copy of Hugh Miller's wonderful book 'Testimony of the Rocks, in my father's library and every spare moment I spent in wading through the profound thoughts that it presented. But few of them could I understand but for all that the story those old rocks revealed fascinated me.

One day I found in a pile of limestone rocks queer masslike impressions and felt sure I had a rich find of fossil leaves, but thought they only proved to be frost marks I never gave up the expectation of one day finding some of the wonderful things I had read about.

The next book of interest that that fell into my hands was Dana's text-book of Geology that we used in the Seminary. This too, opened up a yet wider vision into as yet unrealized possibilities.

But the summer of 1890 marks a peculiar epoch in my career as a fossil hunter. I was spending the summer in the river city of Savanna, Ill., and one afternoon as I wandered up the banks of the Mississippi a peculiar sensation thrilled every nerve of my

being. At my feet lay hundreds of fossils sheets and corals the exact counterpart of those pictured under the Silurian age in Dana's text-book. I had only my hat that day to carry them home in, so every afternoon found me searching, the banks at the foot of the city quarries for specimens.

The next spring I was able to purchase yet more complete book, Dana's Manual and it has been my constant companion ever since. This book is not only illustrated but gives a list of localities, and Savanna was one of them, where the richest finds occur. The summer of 1891 was spent in the same locality only twelve miles inland from the river on my father-in-law's farm. Here I found the same fossils, out in the cornfield, up on Flint hill where the oats had just been cut and in the ditches by the roadside where the rains had washed them out I was sitting down in a ditch one day by the roadside in front of a farm house that simply swarmed with children. I could see that they were watching me from doors and windows and fence corners, when one shy little fellow, braver than the rest, edged down to the road and said "vot you lookin' fer?" I answered in sepulchral tones, "stones" and he skurried back to the house as fast as his fat little legs could carry him, while I went on filling my basket with horn corals. I have felt badly about it ever since for it may have been a lost opportunity to open up to that childish mind a field that lay as a sealed book within his reach. For I find children the most intelligent listeners that I have.

Following these experiences came others. Through Col. Abermethy's kindness I was able to secure my first pamphlet on the glacial age, a remarkable essay on preglacial Iowa by

Prof. Calvin, who for more than thirty years has occupied the chair of geology in our State University. Through a personal acquaintance with Prof. C. L. Webster, ex-government geologist, I have received several of his valuable publications. By his letters he has inspired me to go in the work that seemed cut out for me. Prof. Calvin very graciously lent me seven of his pamphlets, all of which I have given a careful reading. Our U. S. representatives Messrs. Updegraff and Hangen have always responded generously when I have written to them for government reports. All of these publications describe the fossils found in certain localities so graphically that with only one eye half open you are sure to find something of interest wherever you may happen to be.

My little daughter Ruth when only four years old with no technical knowledge of geology discovered a rich find of fossils in a pasture in Waterloo, and this discovery led to a still greater find last summer in Waterloo's famous sewer. The find out at the famous clay banks near Mason City was due to information received from Prof. Webster through his letters and pamphlets.

So in conclusion let me repeat—the only essentials to being successful in your search for fossils is to combine book knowledge with observation and perseverance makes a good agent.

The largest of the burial mounds built by the aborigines in America is at Cahokia, situated eight miles west of the Mississippi river, between the mouth of the Missouri and St. Louis, which is 100 feet high, 1,080 feet long and 70 feet wide.

Curious Indian Grave Disclosures

By GEORGE J. REMSBURG



There are numerous Indian burial grounds within a radius of ten miles of Atchison, Kansas, and in making excavations therein for scientific purposes some curious disclosures have been made. For instance, in an Indian grave on the old Pryor farm in section 11, T 7, R 21, at Port Williams, the writer exhumed an ulna or bone of the forearm, which clearly indicated that it had been broken about midway and had mended again. Tomahawks, beads, etc., were taken from the same grave. The grave of a modern Indian in Sec. 3, T. 6, R 21, on Walnut creek revealed that an old fashioned blue-ornamented china plate had been placed on the breast of the deceased, and the remains enclosed within a hollow log. It was a universal custom with the Indians to deposit food in the grave with the deceased to be used as sustenance by the spirit on its journey to the happy hunting grounds. Thus, the plate may have served as a receptacle for the customary post mortem pabulum, or else it was the favorite dish of the deceased during life. Numerous small bells, or tinkling ornaments

were also found with the remains.

On the premises of John Davitz, the merchant and postmaster at Oak Mills, an Indian grave was uncovered and the remains were so completely decayed that only a few teeth could be preserved. Almost a half bushel of flint implements were deposited in the grave. In some of the graves have been found human bones charred by fire and showing the imprint of animal's teeth. This would seem to indicate that the bones had been gathered up and buried after having been gnawed by wolves and swept by prairie fires. At Kickapoo a well preserved Indian skull showing unmistakable evidence of a concussion, from which the Indian probably died was exhumed from one of the old Kickapoo Indian burial grounds.

The most interesting of all of these curio-osseous finds, however, was disclosed in the exploration of a Indian mound near Iatan, Mo. just across the Missouri River from Atchison. Though the remains were badly decomposed and the mound evidently of considerable antiquity, one of the phalanges of a human foot with the toe nail still adhering to it, was unearthed. As further evidence of the great age of the mound it might be added that a white oak tree four feet in diameter originally grew on the top of the structure. It was cut down in 1866 and converted into ties for the K. C. St. J. & C. B. railroad which passes the place. Thus the discovery of a human toe-nail preserved through centuries of repose beneath the soil, is a remarkable one, and has probably never been duplicated. In the same mound was found a portion of a charred humerus about midway of which is a perfectly round perforation extending vertically into the hollow center of the bone. This perforation is about the circum-

ference of a 32-calibre bullet. A careful examination, however, shows that it could not have been made by a bullet. Perforation of the humerus is common among the remains of prehistoric people, but it invariably exists in the coronoid and olecranon fossa of that particular bone and not in the cylindrical shaft as is the case in this Missouri specimen. Hence, we have here, something of an entirely different character from what is known ethnologically as perforation of the humerus. Cy Smith, ex-police sergeant of Atchison, and James Palmer, a prominent farmer of Iatan, both reliable gentlemen, were present when the discovery was made. All of the above discoveries are well authenticated and the objects mentioned are preserved in the writer's large collection of Indian antiquities.

Edward Curtis a Seattle photographer, is engaged in the commendable task of securing a complete collection of types of North American Indians. He has remarkable skill as a photographer, extraordinary patience and zeal in the work, and has developed rare tact in securing the co-operation of the heads of tribes and nations. He has already obtained several thousand life-size portraits from the principal tribes of both plains and Pueblo Indians. Each photograph is a masterpiece. Mr. Curtis has not yet determined what disposition he will make of the collection, but it ought to be purchased by the United States Government and added to the Catlin collection in the Smithsonian Institute.

It pays to be cheerful in your advertising. "Even the dog gets bread by wagging his tail."

MINERALOGY

EDITOR'S NOTE—Our readers are invited to contribute interesting items, articles, etc to this Dept. Also reports of new discoveries of mines and minerals. All letters addressed to the editor at Glendive, Mont., will be answered as far as possible in this dept. Forest Gaines!

This month we will digress a little from our purely mineralogical subjects, and give some attention to a few discoveries in other branches of science, which we think will interest quite a number of our readers. The attention of the editor was called to them and he concluded that the readers of WEST would gladly share the knowledge.

First we will call attention to a prominent archaeological discovery made by Prof. C. N. Gould in southwestern Missouri, recently. The find occurred in a cave, four miles north of the Arkansas line and twelve miles east of the Indian Territory. The cave in question was seventy feet long and appears to be a hole, dug out of the solid. The bottom of the cave is entirely covered with a coating of ashes, some three feet deep.

It is the supposition that the cavern was inhabited by cave dwellers and the ashes are the remains of their fires. Four human skeletons have thus far been dug out of the debris, together with the bones of several species of animals. The arms of all the skeletons are exceedingly long, and the legs very short. Flint instruments of all kinds as well as many made of bone, have been found in great profusion.

A number of stalactites have formed above the ashes in which the skeletons were found, which must have taken many thousands of years for their formation. The claim is made that only four prehistoric skeletons have been found up to the present time—three in Europe and one

in America—so this find will very likely greatly interest the scientists. Our present source of information concerning the discovery is the St. Paul "Pioneer Press."

Late report from the coast geodetic survey confirms as a fact, what has for a long time, thought to be certainty. That is, that the entire Atlantic Coast from Nova Scotia to Georgia, and as far inland as the Alleghenies is slowly sinking under powerful erosive purposes. The subsidence is very slow, only about a foot in a hundred years, but eventually, the spots where now stand New York, Boston and other cities, will be but a watery waste. Certain marshy coasts, as those of New Jersey, are subsiding a good deal faster than the given rate. The scientific investigations are confirmed by changes in coast and river lines and tidal variation.

In southwestern Colorado along the Dolores river, there is the remains of a buried city, and Major E. H. Cooper of Denver, popularly called the "Cliff Dweller's Man" is now making investigations there. He stumbled across the remains of the city accidentally, some time ago, and on this trip proposes to investigate the site thoroughly. Archaeologists will await his report with interest.

Major Cooper says that originally the Cliff Dwellers were a plains people, highly progressive in agriculture. Then the ancestors of the Navajoes came in from the north, seeking a warmer climate, and eventually drove the "Cliff Dwellers" to seek refuge in the hills. The Major says that the Toltecs, Aztecs and probably the ancient Peruvians were off-shoots of these people, but the Indians were not.

The Moqui Indians may possibly be the descendants. The Toltecs

reached the highest civilization of their time, as evidenced by their architecture. It is thought that the Aztecs, whom Cortez conquered, were their descendants. The mound-builders are another offshoot of the "Cliff Dwellers."

Major Cooper says: "If money was spent as it should be, in southwestern Colorado would be found the remains as remarkable as any ever found in Asia or Africa."

Recently, one of a party of Y. M. C. A. campers on Tunxis Island, thirty miles from New Haven, Conn., in Long Island Sound, discovered buried treasure, which it is thought, may have been placed there by Capt. Kidd. In rolling over a stone a box of wood was found, partly decayed. Inside this was a metal box, sealed with wax, which contained a good sized diamond, an old fashioned gold bracelet and a paper of directions for finding other treasure. The island is now being scoured by parties of would be treasure hunters.



OFFICERS

President—H W Lintz, Hebron, Ark.
Secy-Treas—J Park Graybell, 1113 East Alameda Ave, Denver, Colo.

Dues, for U. S. 50c per year; Foreign 75c

A WORLD WIDE SOCIETY FOR ACTIVE
POSTCARD COLLECTORS.

ORGANIZED APRIL 1904

GREETING

As secretary of "The Union Souvenir Card Exchange" it is with great pleasure that I greet you for the first time, add I sincerely hope to have your hearty support in making "The Union" a glowing success.

It is true that we have a very small

list of new members this month, but it is owing to the fact that we have spent most of our time in soliciting foreign patronage and the returns are still forth coming. We hope to report at least 25 new members next month, and perhaps more.

We will be pleased to send a supply of application blanks to all who request them and will give as a premium three beautiful unused Souvenir Cards for each new member you secure.

The following are new members, having joined since our last report was published, and they desire exchange with all collectors:

Mr. Funk, of Chicago, whose name appears among the list is also a dealer in postcards, carries a large and beautiful stock at low prices, and should receive the patronage of all "Union" members.

NEW MEMBERS.

86. M W Jones, 1428 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, N Y
87. F B Eldredge, 17 Jefferson Street, Attleboro, Mass
88. Walter H Leedom, 519 Market Street, Camden, N J
89. W A Imbler, 1095 West 46th Street, Los Angeles, Calif
90. Edward T Brennan, 40 Wolf Street, High Bridge, N Y
91. A W VanLeer, 1008 North East Street, Bloomington, Ill
92. Henry Whitemack, Box 688, Perry, N Y
93. Charles A W Smith, 23 Lupine Street, Pawtucket, R I
94. E C Cleveland, 203 Burrell Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
95. Herman J Funk, 171 25th Place, Chicago, Illinois
96. John G Davidson, Port Gibson, Miss.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS,

39. Miss Margaret M Gallagher, from 3167 Sheridan Avenue to 3036 Dickson Street, St. Louis, Missouri
49. Miss M Kellar, from Manchester, to Juneau Wisconsin

RESIGNED

76. Miss B D Soule, 23 Clinton Street, Cambridge, Mass

The Canadian Philatelic Society.

Is the Premier Society of Canada

Organized September, 1898, as the
League of Canadian Philatelists.

OFFICERS FOR 1904

President—C. H. Goulden, 131 Hutchison St.
Montreal, Can
Vice President—H. L. Hart, 71 Gottingen St.
Halifax, N S
Vice President for United States—C. H. Fowle,
43 Magoun Ave. Medford, Mass.
Secretary-Treasurer—F. H. Bell, Care Sun Life
Assurance Co. Montreal, Can
Sales Superintendent—H. Smith, 42 Dudley St.
Medford, Mass
Auction Manager—G. P. LeGrand, Paspebiac
West, P.Q. Can
Librarian—H. A. Chapman, Box 72, Rocky Hill,
Conn
Attorney—G. F. Downes, Alberta, Strathcona,
N W T
Purchasing Agent—W. James, Wurtele, 126 St
James St. Montreal, Can
Executive Committee—O. W. Barwick, F. Arch-
er, W Patterson, Montreal
Official Organ—The WEST.

SECY-TREASURER REPORT.

Owing to the non appearance of
our Official organ for the past few
months, we have been at a great dis-
advantage, especially the last month
with the election of officers, etc., for
1905 on hand and unable to let mem-
bers know what has been doing, but
with all the drawback we have been
adding a few to the membership

NEW MEMBERS

E Marks, 526 Euclid Ave, Toronto, Ont
W R Hastings, 169 Drummond St. Montreal, Que
A H D Bazett, 154 Mansfield St. " "
A M Mackay, 4866 Sherbrooke St. " "
Wm Boyd, 1766 Notre Dame St. " "
K M Bell, 91 Denison Ave. Toronto, Ont
O A Baillargeon, 13 Resther St. Montreal, Que
R de la Cueva, 1359 St Andre St. " "
S H Martel, 683 Craig St. " "
Wm McKee, 100 Bluery St. " "
G A Charetts, 651 Boulevard St Joseph, Ville St
Louis, Montreal, Que
E G Guylord, Box 41, Amherst, Mass, U S A
Wm W Raymond, 101 Front St. Owega, N Y
Geo C Gay, Crawford, N J, U S A
A H Baxter, Amherst College, Amherst, Mass
J R Shickland, Waterloo, Ont.

We hope to largely increase our
membership during the coming year.

F. H. Bell,

Secy-Treas.

To the Members of the Canadian
Philatelic Society:

Gentlemen:—

It is some time since you have
heard from me on account of the
non appearance of the "Adhesive."

The officials have chosen the WEST
as the official organ. Blank ballots
for election of officers etc., for 1905
were all mailed by the 1st of Novem-

ber. The election takes place on the
15th of December.

I appointed the following to act as
scrutineers: Messrs F. Bell, W. Pat-
terson and N. Huguenin. These
members are not interested in the
election, as they do not wish to hold
any office.

Although having received many re-
quests to stand for re-election I am
compelled to retire on account of bus-
iness changes, necessitating me giv-
ing all my time both in the evenings
and during the day for some time to
come.

I wish to thank the members and
especially those who have held office
with me for the hearty support which
they have given me during my term.

On behalf of the Society I wish to
thank the Trustees for the time
which they have devoted to the Soci-
ety's interest, they held regular
meetings at which there was always
a full attendance.

I trust the members will elect the
best man available for the various
offices and that the year 1905 will
prove a most successful one for the
society. In conclusion I wish to
state that I shall at any time be
pleased to cooperate with the officers
in any project that has for its object
the interests of the society.

Wishing you all the compliments
of the season, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Chris H. Goulden, Pres.

TRUSTEES REPORT

At a meeting of the trustees it was
decided that owing to the non ap-
pearance of the Adhesive that the
WEST be appointed as official organ.

A cheque was recieved from the
Sales Superintendent for 8.75 for
quarter ending June 30th, 1904 This
was duly deposited to the credit of
Insurance Fund which now has a bal-
ance of \$78.21. We also received a
claim against above of \$2.59 which
has not yet been passed.

F. B. Archer,

Secy Trustees.

Montreal Dec. 1, 1904

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Largest Stamp Society in America
STAMP COLLECTOR'S
Protective Assoc'n
OF AMERICA

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

President—E. Chandler, Roanoke Va.
 Vice-President—W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo
 Secretary-Treasurer—L. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr
 Sales Supt.—E. Spinony, box 443 Great Falls, Mont.
 Auc. Mgr.—H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.
 Attorney—H. Swensen, Minneapolis, Minn
 Trustees—Wilkinson, Brown, Hopson, Omaha
 Official Organ—The WEST.

SALES DEPT RULES.

1. Always secure a receipt for books forwarded to next circuit; registered mail or express are the best modes of transportation. Members can keep exchanges three days and will be responsible for them until the next member receives them. If kept longer than the specified time a fine of five cents per day will be imposed.

2. Members removing a stamp must mark in its place their name or initials. Remarks or comments should be made by letter. Should any blank space be found it is the member's duty to notify the one preceeding him and adjust the matter with him. Failure to do this will render the last member responsible for the amount.

3. When books are forwarded to next on circuit a report sheet containing a memorandum of the total value of all the stamps removed from each book must be sent to the Superintendent and a remittance for the amount of stamps taken must accompany such report, no matter whether the party has stamps circulating in the department or not. This department is run on a strictly cash basis.

4. A commission of 10 per cent will be charged on all sales; also a tax of $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent on the gross value of books will be retained and held in trust for an insurance fund against possible losses. Settlement of sales will be made as soon as circuit reaches home—no waiting. You can sell your duplicates or collections through this department.

Blank books of 10 spaces, 3c each;

half dozen, 25c postpaid.

Emil Spinony, Sup't.
 Box 453, Great Falls, Mont.

NEW MEMBERS

C Hartman, Denver, Colo, 734 E 26 Ave; G Coryell, Mexico City, Bx 3009; W Whipple, Omaha, 702 NYLife Bldg; H S Dickey, Newton, Kan, Bx 214; E G Ward, Springfield, Mass. Supt. Truant School; A L Smith, Rutland, Vt; W Alderson, Wausau, Wis., 3155 Jef st; O Jacobs, Brooklyn, N Y, 525 Putnam Ave; Rev. J. Taylor, North Sutton, NH; A. E. Thompson San Francisco Calif. 124 Diamond st; E Sterlin, N Y City, 249, 4th Ave; W G Robb, Rock Falls, Ill; A H Hoffman, Los Angeles, Calif, 743 E 32st. W A Hutchinson, McKeesport, Pa, 607 Market; C. J Morris, N Y City, 115 Broadway. E Schernikow, N Y City 42 Broadway.

Error made in name of Vaughnan should be Francis E Vaughnan, West Haven, Ct. J. Terry of Washintgon reports that glad to report Best of Canada sent him his stamps back, complained of him through this department. Atlas Co., of Brooklyn, N Y reports Arnold of 283 Williard Ave., Providence, R. I., also J H. Werner, N Y City, this party owes us also W E Burrell, Alymer, Can. H S Dickey of Kansas complains of G W LeMar of Chicago with London Lanshire Ins. Co. for this is party that Curio Socy gave mention of over a year ago and aga'n in Iowa. Wendt states this society is very successful getting people to time for 3 he sent only one named first is all he has not heard from except Peartree of Philadelphia. Several complaints come in at the last minute from Green & Smith of Illinois. Report in next number if we do not hear. Doak of Avondale says all have complaint vs International Stamp Ex of Hudson, Mich., to send claim to J E Stuart P O Inspceter Chicago with correspondence, so can get in shape for him.

THE METROPOLITAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

President	H. D. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
Vice-President	J. A. Solomon, East Greenwich R. I.
Sec'y-Treasurer	F. A. Mueller, Peake, Nebr.
Sales Sup't	L. V. Cass, Sunbury, Pa.
Exchange Supt	G. W. Munger, Corning, N. Y.
Attorney	J. S. Robertson, St. Thomas, Ont.
Counterfeit Detector	Rev. R. Von Pirch, Berlin, Ont.
Librarian	Joel H. DuBose, Huguenot, Ga.
Trustees {	A. D. Blair, Elmira, N. Y.
	J. A. D. Park, Buffalo, N. Y.
	R. F. Baldwin, Chic ^{go} , Ill.

REPRESENTATIVES

Canada	Fred Cruse, Walkerville, Ont.
Great Britain	W. W. Webster, 11 Leonard St, Derby.
Costa Rica	O. P. Nunes, Box 15, Port Limon
New Zealand	Robert Brown, Denniston
Guatemala	A. L. Godoy, Guatemala City.
Australia	H. W. Shelton, Castlemaine, Victoria

Fellow-members:— SECRETARY'S REPORT.

I beg to hand you herewith my monthly report and am glad to report that we are still progressing. I am pleased to note that numerous philatelic papers now speak of the M. P. A. as being one of the leading societies. Dues are coming in well and hope all members will quickly respond and send in their 25c to pay the dues for 1905. The subscription price of the WEST is alone 50c so you will see the saving you will make by keeping your membership full paid up. Kindly attend to this immediately.

Wishing you all and everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy prosperous New Year, I remain Fraternally yours. F. A. Mueller, Secy-Treas.

NEW MEMBERS.

Henry E Lang, 209 K St. N E, Washington, D C	Proposed by Solomon
Jose S Jaap, Durango, Mexico	
John Williams, Forest St Castlemaine, Victoria	Shelton
Ed Coates, Orilla, Ont, Canada	Mueller
Sanford Klein, 4519 Main Ave, Cincinnati, O	Wendt
Verna W Hanway, Dallas, Pa	Munger
J B McCracken, Ninevah Junction, N Y	
Ira T Fisher, Mahomet, Ill	Solomon
H A Buchholz, Sta H, Cincinnati, O	Munger
G B Mair, Broken Bow, Neb	Brodstone
O Jacobs, Brooklyn, N Y, 535 Putnam Ave	
A H Hoffman, Los Angeles, Calif, 743 E 32 St	

TREASURER'S REPORT.

From November 10th to December 5, 1904.

Receipts.

Sales dept.	\$1.00	
Applications and dues	6.15	
On hand Nov. 10	7.46	
		\$14.61

Disbursements.

Brodstone, October report	\$2.50	
Young, application blanks	4.00	
Kirby, 1000 envelopes	2.75	
Estoppey, advertiisng	1.80	
Postage70	
		\$11.75
Balance on hand December 5th	2.68	
		\$14.61

PERSONAL

Our Exchange Department, which is a feature no other society has, is in flourishing condition. Many members are taking advantage of the same and everyone who has not done so should write at once to the superintendent.

Now that the elections are over we shall expect a lot of new and good work to be done by the new set of officers. Next month we shall announce several appointments and changes in our membership.

Mr. F. A. Laycock, Billing Road, Northampton is forming an extensive branch of the M. P. A. in England. The various departments will be conducted on same plans as on this side of the pond and in co-operation with the respective departments here. We wish Mr. Laycock success in this undertaking and trust all Britishers will respond to his invitation to join the British M. P. A.

A great coup d'etat is being brought to completion. The fact is that the Union Philatelic Society is to be consolidated with the M. P. A. The officers of the U. P. S. are all in favor of his movement and it is expected that the measure will be carried by a large majority. This week the U. P. S. officers mailed out letters asking the members to vote for against the measure. We hope they will take advantage of becoming members of our society and by a large majority. Our society has real benefits and in unity there lies a great deal of strength. There are trusts in everything—why not a philatelic trust? The numerous small societies are scattering their efforts whereas if they were all combined into one strong one the good that could be done would be many times as great. Other societies will do well to follow in the path of the U. P. S. as we shall give most liberal terms to such and allow each branch full representation. It is the beginning of a great movement which will ultimately end in the consolidation of all the minor societies.

Speaking of the above, we might say that this is a big advertisement of our worthiness as it shows that we have a superiority over the other minor societies. We certainly are coming rapidly to the front and no society in the United States can point out such a rapid growth as we have had. Likewise no other society can point so many ACTUAL benefits at so small a cost. A prominent philatelist writing to me a few days ago said, "I 1905 catalogue. Second prize will be a year's subscription to Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News. Third prize will be a 25c due bill. For the fifth number drawn out we will give a packet of 20 animal stamps. For the seventh number drawn out we will give a packet of 2 portrait stamps. For the tenth number drawn out Mr. Munger will give a years subscription to "La Cote Reelle" For the fifteenth number drawn out L. Crandall will give a years subscription to his "Philatelic Advertiser". For the seventeenth number out W. E. Neave will give a years subscription to his stamp paper. Prizes for this month were won as follows.

First prize—H. D. Munger, who held number 118. Second prize—G. W. Munger, who held number 177. Third prize—L. V. Cass, who held number 174. Special prize packet donated by Mr. Munger was won by W. V. Nugent.

intend to resign my memberships in all the minor societies. I consider that every person should belong to the American and the Metropolitan Philatelic Associations but, if he is a member of these two, that is sufficient."

Memberships in the M. P. A. are granted your 50c payable in advance and good up to January 1906. All persons applying must submit satisfactory reference and dues in advance. All philatelists should be members as our benefit are well worth the cost. Foreign members who wish the WEST every month must pay 4 shillings when their application is submitted and 2 shillings dues yearly. Without the WEST the dues will be the same as local memberships. Blanks and information may be obtained from any officer. We trust all philatelists will take this opportunity up at once. We have especially attractive inducements for all dealers and also collectors. Write for blanks and join at once.

The social part of the M. P. A. is by far not the least pleasure that a membership may bring members. You form pleasing acquaintances with intelligent and generally very worthy people. This summer our president did quite a bit of travelling and in the course of his trip he took occasion to look up several of the members. He reports that he found every one he looked up to be fine intelligent gentlemen who entertained him royally. The acquaintances you form will be a source of lasting enjoyment and you feel as if you knew some one everywhere. Such a feeling is good and is helpful. Next year we will hold a big convention at Niagara Falls and every member should attend and have a good time.

Next month the WEST will contain the cuts of some of our officers. Mr. Brodstone would like to have any member send his photo with a short account of himself and his collection and it will be published in the WEST.

We shall shortly issue a list of our members and also rules of the Sales and Exchange Departments. Our treasury is a little low and a loan from any willing member would be much appreciated. After the convention next August we shall issue a rulebook for 1905 combined providing that enough members will put down their name for same. If you have changed your address, let us know so your name will be correct in the list.

Send in that Twenty-five cents At Once to Pay Your Dues For This Year. Does it pay to belong? Just one instance, we have half the subscription price by being a member of the M. P. A. Other examples in great number.

All members should use our departments for exchange and sales. You do not know what opportunities you are missing unless you do this.

Monthly prize drawings keep great interest alive yet. Hope some of our members can donate some other prizes to be offered monthly. Get us a new member and take a chance.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEWYEAR.

PRIZE DRAWINGS.—The prize contests retain their popularity. It pays to get us new members. There were fifteen chances this month. For next month we offer as the prizes. First prize will be a copy of Scott's

Fellow Members of M. P. A.—

I herewith hand you the returns of the Election of our society. I do further thank you for the honor you have again bestowed upon me by re-electing me as your Secretary and Treasurer by such a big majority and I assure you I will again serve the Society to the best of my ability, as I think the best is not too good for my fellow members. Wishing you all the Compliments of the Season and again thanking you I remain fraternally yours, F. A. Mueller.

PRESIDENT: H. D. Munger 75, John Solomon 12; VICE PRESIDENT: John Solomon 48, W. V. Nugent 40; SECY-TREAS., F. A. Mueller 82, H. D. Munger 4; INTERNATIONAL SECY.: J. A. D. Park 73, R. W. Geaque 13; SALES SUPT.: L. V. Cass 57, Geo. C. Ashy 17, A. D. Blair 17; EXCHANGE SUPT: G. W. Munger 64, J. R. Oakden 25; LIBRARIAN: J. H. Du Bose 53, R. J. Beck 31; FRAUD INVESTIGATOR: Rev. H. Wendt 46, W. V. Nugent 22, Fred Cruse 19; COUNTERFEIT DETECTOR: Rev. R. Van Pirsch, Geo. C. Ashy 39; ATTORNEY: S. E. Moisant 40, A. D. Blair 30, J. S. Robertson 15; Advertising Subscription Agency: Joseph Sayman 45, Emil Spinony 42; Trustees: L. T. Brodstone 70, R. F. Baldwin 20, A. D. Blair 35, S. E. Moisant 32, Fred Cruse 21, H. Wendt 23, L. Crandall 13, R. J. Beck 14, R. W. Geaque 12, S. V. Saxby 14, H. A. Chapman 28, H. Huff 18, G. C. Ashy 16, Emil Spinony 17, H. P. Wickham 8; Official Organ: WEST 59, Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News 19; Adhesive 5. Convention Seat: Niagara Falls, N Y, 55, Chicago, Ill. 17, Minneapolis, Minn., 6.



NEBRASKA PHILATELIC SOCIETY. 222

Nebraska's
Pride.

ORGANIZED 1892. LARGEST STATE SOCIETY EXTANT.

Pres. E. H. Wilkinson, Omaha, Sta. C.
V-Pres., F. B. Woolston, Omaha, Registry Dept.
Secy-Treas., L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebr.
Sales Supt., Rev. H. Wendt, Sterling.
Auc. Manager.
Librarian, H. T. Parker, Lincoln, 245 S 15 St.
Count. Detector, W. C. Estes, Omaha, Bx 1262;
Attorney, H. Whipple, Omaha, N Y Life Bldg.
Trustees, W. Hendricks, Paxton Hotel, Omaha.
Hopson & Peterson.

New Member—G B Mair, Broken Bow

Would like to hear from all readers and hints to help amateurs, wish to use all members photos if they will send the same cuts will be got.

Can use more new members. Many dues are due, look them up on your membership card and see if your names are not in this number.

SPEAKING BY PICTURES.

A good cut helps an advertisement to tell its story and to tell it quickly. The ad with a good cut stands out to the advantage of the merchant or store using it. If the good of the store is considered in the use of illustrations in advertisements the advantages will be shown to be with cuts that talk, that stand out in clear contrast to the surroundings and that give to the merchant an advantage over the other advertisers. The judgment and taste of the store is illustrated in the wisdom shown in the selection of cuts for use in advertising, and this wisdom is appreciated by those who read the paper.

MONTANA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

LIST OF OFFICERS

President—C D Crouch, Great Falls
Vice President—H Afflerbach, " "
Secretary-Treasurer—G Harper, " "
Sales Superintendent—E Spinony, Bx 453, " "
Trustees—H Whitney, H Crosby, W L Turner,
Great Falls, Mont.
Official Organ—The WEST

Parties having copies of used U. S. postage and revenues, in perfect condition, prior to issue of 1880 will find customers in this Society. Communicate with the Sales Superintendent. Collectors in Montana will find to their advantage to join the M. P. S. Application can be had of any officers or from Geo. Harper, Secretary.

Interstate Philatelic Association.

OFFICERS FOR 1904

President. C H Precemeder, 206 Taylor St. Portland, Ore
Vice Pres. H Moeller, 294 12th St Portland, Ore
Sales Supt. W W Nickerson, Klamath Agy. Ore
Secy. Treas. F L Applegate, Yainax, Oregon
Trustees: F N M Cordlesz, 403 Luzon Bldg. Tacoma, Wnsh; John Zuz. Evertt, Wash. and H L Geary, 722 Boern Ave, Seattle, Wash
Official Organ. The WEST.
Convrntion Seat. Portland, Ore.

I. P. A. Meets in Portland the 27. Send nominations for officers, at once, all of which must be residents of Oregon or Washington.

Frank L. Applegate, Sec. Treas.

Kansas Phil. Soc'y

President. W. P. Kelly, Kansas City, Mo.
Vice-Pres., F. A. Lilly, Sabetha, Ks.
Secy-Treas., F. J. Ford, 314 N Wabash Ave., Wichita, Kas.
Sales Supt., F. N. De LaMeter, Wichita, Kansas.
Auction Mgr., F. R. Hayworth, Wichita, Kans.
Librarian, E. G. Stephens, Kansas City, Kansas.
Counterfeit Det., Rev. R. Stollenwerk, Lincolnville, Kansas.
Attorney, H. W. Broadbent, Kansas City, Kansas
Trustees, T. C. Stephens, O. H. Phinney, F. J. Bescher, Kansas City, Kansas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

REPORT OF SEC. & TREAS.

of K. P. S. for year ending Dec. 1, 1904.
Received from members, dues \$3.55
Paid for official paper \$2 40
" " " Postage .15

Bal on hand

1.00

3.55 3.55

Yours Truly,
F. J. Ford, Sec. & Treas.

Southern Philatelic Association

OFFICERS.

President, F. W. Coning, New Brunswick, N. J
Vice-Pres., F. Fuessel, St. Louis, Mo.
Int. Secy., H. Fenton, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.
Counterfeit Dept., F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
Attorney, F. D. Goedhue, Cincinnati, O.
Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vandaburg, Lithgow, New York.
Secy-Treas., W. P. Kelley, Kansas City, Mo.
Sales Supt., Chas. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.
Trustees, H. A. Herzog and H. G. Askew of Austin, Texas.
Official Organ, The WEST.

SECY-TREAS. REPORT.

Application for membership—

S H Northup, 295 N. 1st, San Jose, Calif.

A good many members are now in arrears for dues. Please remit or I shall have to discontinue your name on the roll of the official organ. Why not join and use the Sales Dept. It will only cost you 35c until Jan 1, 1906. Send for application blank at once.

Respectfully,
W. P. Ketley,

3222 Perry Ave,
Kansas City, Mo.

REPORT OF SALES SUPT.

Books received since convention 25 value \$567.26 all of which are now circulating. As no books were received till Oct. 14, none have been retired so far.

Department wants more books for circulation many are promised; but they don't come in fast enough.

Respectfully,
Charles Waring.

An advertisement in the WEST will be read by more than 15,000 people.

American Society of Curio Collectors

President—Roy Farrell Greene, Arkansas City, Kas.

Vice Presidents—Jacob Veigel, North Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. F. May Tuttle, Osage, Ia.; Guy T. Bogart, Brookville, Ind.

Secretary and Treasurer—Wm. Warner, Jr., 1807 A Division Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.

Official organ—The WEST.

Cost of membership.—Initiation fee, 25 cents annual dues, 50c. Members receive a copy of the official organ each month.

Department of Mineralogy—Forrest Gaines Glendive, Mont.

Department of Conchology and Entomology (Marine Atlantic Division)—Prof. C. Abbot Davis, 1131 Elmwood Ave. Prov., R. I.

Department of Postmarks—J. L. Wheeler, 72 Comstock Ave. Providence, R. I.

Department of War Relics—A. H. Bailey, Superintendent, Marietta, Ga.

Department of Numismatics—E. L. Bangs, 1401 Clarkson St., Baltimore, Md.

Department of Archaeology—Arthur B. Coover, Superintendent, Roxabell, O.

Department of Birds and Mammals—Department of Geology—F. A. Brown, East Peru, Iowa.

All honest collectors, whatever be their chosen branch of collecting, except stamps, are invited to join. We do not solicit stamp collectors as members as there are so many good philatelic societies now in existence, but collectors of stamps who collect along other lines also are invited to become members.

Free Identification Bureau for naming and classifying shells, minerals, fossils, coins, etc., for members only, in charge of a competent superintendent, will examine and name doubtful specimens submitted to them by members.

Renewals.

348. Mrs. E. B. Brokaw, Pasadena, Calif, Sta A.

134. H H Parkhurst, Amherst, N H
431 Harry M. Clark, Dana, Kan.

New Members.

A L Heltrich, San Francisco, Cal,
508 Market St. M L Garretson,
Franklin Park, N. J. J W Haare,
Ann Arbor, Mich. E S Crane, Yau,
zoo City, Miss F Toole, Bloomfield,
Mo D Barnes, Chattanooga, Tenn.
Rr 236

Applications, G A Smith, Oakfield,
N Y, F E Vaughn, West Haven, Ct,
192 Center St; G. B. Mair, Broken
Bow Nebr.; R Loyd, Columbiaville,

Mich, O W Hayes, Byron, Okla. F
A Blowers, Winnebago, Minn. J
Minchen, Fleming, Y. Member com-
plains of old member named Dr. Val-
way, Cleveland, Ind., sent him lot
of mounted birds more than a year
ago and unable to hear. Can any
one tell the cause of delay? Sorry
to give report in last number but it
is best for members to send dues to
publisher direct and be sure to get
the paper and help out the society
this way glad to have all members
photos as well as write up of hobbies,
etc.

Readers of the WEST and mem-
bers of the A. S. of C. C.

Greetings:—

After a siege of eight months in
the Egyptian Exhibit at the St.
Louis World's Fair, I am once more
back in Ohio, with time enough on
my hands to say How-do-you-do, to
my collecting friends, through the
columns of the WEST. Eight
months may seem but a short time
to many, but to those who were in
charge of exhibits at the Fair the
past eight months has gone slowly.
To me, the constant association with
the mummies, and articles made in
the dim and distant past, gave plenty
of food for thought. Yet, as I was
so fortunate (or unfortunate) as to
have a room inside the grounds, the
monotony became almost unbearable.
I have many pleasant memories of
friends made while explaining the ex-
hibit, but can't say that I fully ap-
preciated those who like the old lady
to whom I was explaining the use of
a sarcophagus made some 4000 years
before Christ. This old lady said:
"Yes this exhibit is very interesting,
but can you tell me where I may find
the antiquities." Another lady,
whom I noticed trying to raise the
top of my desk, upon being asked if
she wanted anything, replied "I just

wanted to see what kind of a musical instrument this is." Such things may be amusing for a time, but when one gets on an average of eight hundred questions per day fired at him, he is always glad when it comes time to close the exhibit. Another trial to be met by all exhibitors, and that was the souvenir hunter. Fortunately the Egyptian Exhibit was for the most part under glass, therefore my troubles were lessened on that score, yet, some one managed to get a wooden turtle and a set of hairpins from one of the scenes.

The Louisiana Purchase Exposition will go down in history as the greatest educational institution the world has ever known, and I have three reasons for being glad: I am glad that there was such a fair, glad that I got to attend it for eight months, and glad that I am home once more.

With the consent of the editor and forbearance of the Curio Society, I hope in the near future to contribute a short article on what I learned about Egypt while at the World's fair. This article will be illustrated by photographs taken direct from the specimens, some of which have never been described in American literature.

ERRATA

C. King, Son & Co., New York is no \$3 State as ad printer has in his ad.

In last month Negreen of N. Y. ad was a mistake in name, James instead of Joseph.

BUSINESS MANAGERS SAY

Would advise every reader to secure a copy of A B C Postage Stamps.

See the ad in another page of Wycil & Co of N Y and review of same overlooked giving them mention.

We offer combination rates with all Success combine offers and offer their 10 books of American Fiction with WEST at \$2.50. The ten volumes are worth double this price.

We have had to leave out some of the best articles and illustrations we expected to get in this number. We have fine MSS with illustrations on Japan, China, Corea coins with illustrations for the next number with some of best stamp and curio articles we have seen.

Will have cut of the largest Philatelic publisher of France. Large lady collectors club of Chicago, etc., with one of the finest covers ever got out.

Trust all advertisers and society officers will send reports in at once.

We start with this number charge of Canada Premier Philatelic Society Montana Society and others we expect to use in next number.

You can see how WEST helps advertisers.

When a man commences to advertise he dare not let up, for just the moment he does let up just that moment the people get the impression the advertiser is going backward and losing trade! Say, some of you semi-occasion advertisers, just read that sentence over again carefully. It's full of meat!

To make a good advertisement you need a good thing to advertise, a well-expressed advertisement, a good compositor to set the type, and a good medium in which to insert the announcement. The better the quality of each, the greater and more immediate success.



The Dandy Negative Box.

Wm H LEMM, Jarra, Minn

Thinking that some of my fellow camera workers would like to know how they can preserve their negatives, I will try and explain how I keep mine, some two hundred or more.

I first made a box as follows: Out of half inch lumber I cut six pieces; two end pieces each four and one-half by six inches; a bottom piece, four and one-half by twenty-two inches; a cover piece five by twenty-three inches; a front piece an inch wider and a back piece another half-inch wider still, and the same length as the top piece. This box was intended for four by five inch negatives but a little calculation will give the sizes of the pieces required in making a box for other sizes of negatives.

After these pieces had been made smooth by planing and sandpapering, I nailed the two end pieces to the bottom, not the bottom to the end pieces. I next nailed the front and back pieces onto the end and bottom, not between the end pieces, or above the bottom. This makes the back piece stand one half inch above the front and ends. The cover was then placed in position and found to fit neatly against this back piece to

which it was attached with two small hinges. Three pieces the same size as the ends were inserted and fastened with nails so as to divide the box into four equal compartments. Two small hooks and pins were placed about three inches from each end to hold the cover in position when closed own. The hooks were fastened on the box and the pins in the cover. This box only required painting or staining to be complete.

I have placed each of my negatives in a negative preserver and have each one numbered and titled. On the inside of the cover I have pasted a sheet of paper corresponding to the different compartments which are numbered or lettered and bearing a list of the negatives which each contain. By doing this it is a very simple matter to keep a complete record of all my negatives and to keep them in order so that they do not become disarranged when a few are taken out to be printed from. Besides the work of making the box the cost will be about as follows: Lumber, an old dry goods box 10 cents; Hinges and fasteners, 10 cents; finishing nails and sandpaper, 5 cents and paint about the same. This is inded a small outlay for the amount of satisfaction which the box will furnish. While the box was designed by myself it was made for me by Fred Miekle of Elgin, Minn.



It is a pleasant duty to once more wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a most Happy New Year. During the past year I have had the pleasure of meeting four or five of the readers of the WEST who are not residents of San Francisco, but at the same time I feel that I can claim you all as friends; some of course older friends than others but all in a measure more than acquaintances, much more than simple readers of the few lines that I have furnished you in this department from month to month. I trust that our happy relationship shall continue for many years to come. You will certainly continue as subscribers to the WEST and I most assuredly hope that I may continue to assist you in your enjoyment of photography or as long a time to come. My services are always at your disposal. If you have any troubles that I might possibly remove, let me hear from you. If you are undecided about buying a lens or something, my advice is at your disposal. If you get a letter from Mr. Brodstone and can not read it send it to me. I will offer you my most heartfelt sympathy and explain that I am no better off than yourself. Any that you may get from him about this time is no doubt an expression of the good will which I know he bears towards us, each and everyone, and I will here join him in wishing you all, All the Compliments of the Season.

COLOR OF WALL COVERING.

A correspondent "back east" has fitted up the upper story of a small stable as a home studio, and as the framing of the building would not allow as much light as he wished to introduce, he thought to cover the walls so that there would be as little loss as possible. He thought it would be a good idea to paper them yellow and carry out a color scheme with that as the key. Another advantage he expected to realize was the tendency of yellow to photograph several tones darker than it appeared visually; in fact, that was the reason he chose yellow instead of white. The yellow would allow him to photograph his subjects with the walls as a background. The arrangement failed, and failed utterly, to give good results. The reason was found to lie in this same difference between the visual strength of yellow and its photographic qualities. A combination of his direct light and a reflected yellow light from a near wall would be all that was desired on the ground glass only to prove something entirely different in the negative. Where the reflected light was expected to illuminate the shadows, no such effect would appear. The result was that the entire color scheme had to be changed and one substituted that harmonized with a pale, bluish grey coloring. The apparent illumination and the photographic results then harmonized perfectly. His negatives then gave him the same lighting that this ground-glass had indicated at the time of the sitting. This point is worth considering by those intending a like arrangement as well as to those who have failed to understand certain results in portrait work made with reflecting surfaces of a yellow tinge near their subjects.

TO DEVELOP UNCERTAIN EXPOSURES.

I read an article not long since in which the amateur was advised to get detail first, and then to handle his developer as to secure the desired density. This is so at variance with my own practice that I think a word of caution should be put forth. In the case of known under-exposure such a proceeding as this article recommends would no doubt be the most desirable method, but where there is any doubt about the matter it would seem like courting disaster in a majority of cases. There is liable to be present at all times a certain amount of surface fog. The flashing up of the detail with a developer strong in alkali will bring this fog strongly to the fore, and any attempt to bring up density afterward will simply intensify this fog and often, particularly in the case of over-exposure, fail utterly in getting desired density. The more advisable plan is to first flow the plate with a developer containing a part only of the normal amount of accelerator, and by the action of the image, whether quick or slow in coming forward, determine if further addition of the alkali is or is not advisable. With but a little practice, starting all exposures in a developer of a certain modification as to accelerator, one can judge by the length of time consumed in the first appearance of the image just what amount of accelerator should be added to produce in the finished negative that degree of gradation required for the printing process desired to be used. In my own practice I avoid the use of bromide entirely, and depend upon this method of working. All exposures that are at all doubtful as to timing are first placed in a solution containing but one fourth of the alkali called for in a normal developer. A tray of normal developer is at hand and as soon as the appearance of the image

indicates that a certain plate has secured a correct or less exposure, it is placed in this latter tray. If but slight over-exposure is indicated, the plate is alternated between the first and last tray, simply as being more convenient than altering the developer in the first tray and having the same result. If too much density in the high lights is threatened, alternating the plate between a tray of clear water and the normal developer will restrain its density while allowing detail to make its appearance — Camera Craft.

Improving Lantern Slides

One lantern worker will tell you to carry your slides a little beyond the right point, even disregarding a slight veiling should it appear. After developed and fixed a weak ferricyanide and hypo reducer should be used to clear up the slide. Another worker will condemn this practice, saying that only the minute fractional part of the plate should be clear glass and that a slight veiling is often an advantage. He will go to deplore the fact that a lack of appreciation of a good slide exists and that the commercial article is entirely too hard and chalky as a rule. Now I think both these gentlemen are in a measure right. Now I have a friend that is practicing a method which is not original but hardly as well known as it should be. With most of his slides he uses a plate that has been slightly fogged by the light from a match and then developed, as a cover glass. This is held against the slide and with one of these weak pencils he encloses on the glass side of the cover plate all those portions where he thinks there should be nothing more than the image on the positive. The fogged cover glass is removed and with the reducer and brush he removes the veiling from such portions of the cover glass. Some of his effects so secured are indeed very fine.

The Nebraska Camera Club

Any reader in Nebraska can become a member, a membership card free for the postage.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1898

President Miss L. Tillotson, 1305 32 St. Sta B Omaha

Sec'y.-Treas. L. Brodstone. Superior, Neb.

NEW MEMBERS.

757 C L Hovet, Fairfield, 758 H G Bauman, Shadron; 759 T Camimus, Norfolk, Citizens Bank; 760 C R Kate, Wanye.

APPLICATIONS

761 W F Moore, Beatrice, Nebr, c-o D M M C.; 762 F T Phillips, Lincoln, 1641 M St.; 763 Rusher, Bloomington, 64 E C Nyrop, Royal; 63 Rusher, Bloomington; 65 E Pearson, South Omaha, Bx 95.

TO REMOUNT A PHOTOGRAPH

After a little expertness has been gained in the process of mounting prints, it will be found a really fascinating one, by those who are at first a little bothered by the tendencies to air-bubbles, tears and such like, accidents, which beset the path of the beginner. This is a good time of the year, naturally, to devote a part of one's leisure to this class of work—before the negative making season proper has commenced. There is a large assortment of beautifully artistic mounts now to be had through the photographic dealers; and it is likely enough that besides the mounting of freshly made prints, one who interests himself in this branch of work may wish to renovate, by transferring to cleaner or better mounts, pictures that have been allowed to deteriorate by careless exposure to the dust or unfavorable atmospheric conditions.

In such a case, the surplus part of the old dirty mount should be cut away and the card and picture then

immersed in slightly warm water. Should this soaking not permit of the print being floated off, it may be that mounting was done in the first place with an india rubber solution, in which case, by holding it near the fire the rubber will soften and the print may be readily peeled off. If it is suspected that an alcoholic mountant has been used, a preliminary trial can be made in a bath of alcohol; but in the majority of cases the method we have just indicated will be found to suffice.

Unsatisfactory Enlargements.

We are so continually getting complaints of irregular and unsatisfactory enlargements, say Messrs. Elliott, in the current Banret Photographic Record, that we wish to give a special caution to all those who use bromide paper for the purpose. It is that they do not on any account omit the preliminary soaking in water before development. We recommend that the paper should be allowed to soak in clean cold water for at least a minute, and that then and only then should the water be poured off and the developer applied. It is a curious fact that while this is so important to ensure even working of the developer and freedom from airbells, it is only the case with bromide paper, and that with plates precisely the opposite holds good.

With the latter preliminary soaking in water is very prone to cause air bells.



American Camera Club Exchange

President—H. V. Thornton, 304 N.
State St., Chicago, Ill.

Secretary—L. T. Brodstone, Superior,
Neb.

Why not become a member? It costs
you nothing if a subscriber. Member-
shipcard sent for 5c, Foreign 10c.

Ones marked x are also souvenir
card collectors, most exchange cards.

5275 F D Perevia, Rataike, Colombo,
Ceylon, 126 Hultsdorf.

6 E G Meinenbeck, Brooklyn, N
Y., 80 Second Place

7 Mrs. J Gustevson, Kansas City,
Mo., 622 Forest Ave.

8x M Richardson, Bx 33, Little
River, Kan.

9x E Gough, Nanaimo, B C, Bx 52

6280x CHansen, Omaha, Neb, Bx 1272

1x Miss R Pearson, Coventry,
England, 4 Trinity Ter.

2x A V Vennard, Bowere, North
Queensland, Australia.

3x W Haddon Bradley St, Burnt
Tree, Tipton, England.

4x Anna M Melroy, Clayville, Pa
Bx 65.

5x M A Richardson, Ticondaroga,
N Y.

6x N V Coevorden, Nieuwstad, 13
Groningen, Holland.

7x E Butler 260, Johnstone, St
Annandale, Sydney, Australia.

8x H J Cartwright, Postal Dept
Oamparu, New Zealand

9x Woodbury, Roscoe, Adroguusa
Buenos Aires, Argentine Rep, SA

6290x Pearl U Davis, Stockton, Calf,
bx 174

1x J L Warren, Colorado Springs,
Colo, 9 Teqjon St.

2x Rose Davis, Great Falls, Mont

3x L L Conn, Pittsburg, Pa, 5650
Rural

4x B H Wilson, Rock Island, Ill,
1102 17st

5x C C Brink, Doon, Ia.

6x T W Charlesworth, Arkona,
Ont., Canada

7x Ethel Fossette, 6 Austin st,
Wellington, New Zealand

8x Miss Mae Leonard, Newark,
N Y

9x Jode Straley, Comanche, Tex

6300x E Streatan, Portland, Ore, 647
Weidler St

1x Geo Cummings, Dunedin, New
Zealand

2x H Zimmerman, Minneapolis,
Minn, 1569 Wash Ave North

3x J R Dick, Firth, Nebr.

4x L Atwater Newport R I Bx 62

5x L Micheal Ferndale Calif.

6x A S Colby, Tilton, N H, T S

7x Miss G Bronlee, Springfield,
Mass, 313 Monain st.

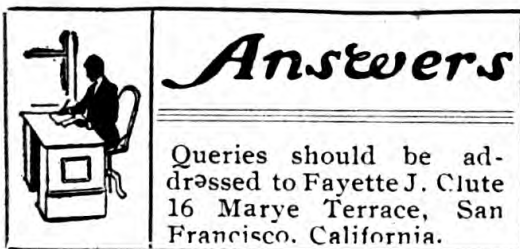
8x Edna Reed, Rock Island, Ill,
3101 5st.

9x L Hammond, Milwaukee, Wis,
2314 Vine St.

6310x H Greenfield, Bx 109, Victoria,
B C, Canada.

1x John Ross, O, Walk, British
Honduras, C A

2x Mary Wood, Providence, R I,
37 Jefferson st



V. de A.: Toning Gelatine Chloride Prints:—The right way to determine when toning has been carried far enough is to examine the prints by transmitted light. Tone until the shadows show but a trace of warmth. Even prints that seem to be over toned by reflected light will often show considerable warmth all over when examined in this manner. Judging the degree of toning in this way you should have little, if any trouble, in securing good even tones in all your prints.

C. W. W.: Stained Edges On Solio:—The metallic brown stain around the edges of your prints is caused by allowing the paper to lie around loose before being entirely used up. When done printing, place the unused paper under a weight and you will have little trouble unless the paper is kept for a long time. It is the practice of one professional whom I know to keep weight made of thick sheets of lead bound between two old negatives and covered with cloth, to place over the compartments in the drawer in which his paper is stored. These fit snugly in the various compartments and are provided with handles in the shape of bits of tape sewed on like drawer pulls.

A. F. M.: Spotting Colors:—Using India ink, crimson lake water color and sum solution, you should be able to mix a color to match almost any tone that can be secured on your Solio prints. With a set of the best spotting colors, you will find that you

have to mix a color from two of those supplied, quite often. With a little practice the use of the India ink and crimson lake will give no difficulty whatever.

D. B. D.:—Halation and Double Coated Plates:—Your complaint that the non-halation plates gave you nearly as much halation as the ordinary kind used on the same subject is no sign that the former has no advantage. In your letter you admit that you gave the non-halation plate much more time and developed it with stronger developer than you dared use on the plain plate. Any attempt to force one of these double coated plates is almost sure to bring out halation if the subject be one that is at Trying. A short exposure and slow development with a weak developer will often allow one to use an ordinary plate on subjects well calculated to give halation. See answer to J. M. E. in last number.

W. N. H.: Warm Tones on Developing paper:—The best results I have seen in this line, aside from toned prints were made by using Edinol after the formula supplied by the makers with a heavy addition of bromide; overtiming the print in proportion to the amount of bromide added. While I can not give an exact formula it can be easily learned just how much bromide additional and just how much over exposure is required to secure the best results. The prints shown me were greatly superior to and entirely different from prints made by the same method using other developers.

The successful man is the one who is constantly watching for, and promptly adopts opportunities. — A. Bogardus.